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TOWN OF

NORTHFIELD

MASSACHUSETTS

East Northfield Schoolhouse c. 1905

1999

ANNUAL REPORT

COVER PHOTO

East Northfield Schoolhouse - The Pine Street Schoolhouse was built in 1903 by S.C. & F.A. Holton and the plans by A.W. Holton. Labor and materials were $3,180.26.

The site was given to the town by Ambert G. Moody for the consideration of $1.00 on September 18, 1889 for a district school - so the school located across from his "Homestead" could be moved. This was done.

The Historical Society opened the building as a museum in 1942.

Source: Northfield Town Report, Puritan Outpost by Parson and the Northfield Historical Museum.

Town of Northfield

Massachusetts

Annual Report

For the year ending
December 31, 1999

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NORTHFIELD
TOWN HALL HOURS

Phone: (413) 498-2901
Town Hall Fax: (413) 498-5103
Police Dept. Fax: (413) 498-5115
Fire Dept. Fax: (413) 498-5105
Fire Dept. Phone (non-emergency): (413) 498-5100
(Hours as stated, unless otherwise posted)

Administrative Assistant – Susan Draves
Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Assessors Office – Carol Holden, Clerk
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday 8:00 am – 2:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Building Inspector – James Hawkins
Monday & Friday 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
(Summer Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.)

Police Department – Chief Gary Sibilia
Secretary–Sharon Weyers (Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)
For Emergency call – 911 or Shelburne Control 625-8200

Tax Collector/Treasurer – Barbara Brassor
Monday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Wednesday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Town Clerk – Mary Taferner
Monday 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Town Secretary – Cherrie Smart
Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Town of Northfield Facts

Annual Town Meeting:	First Monday in May
Annual Election:	First Tuesday in May
Area Square Miles:	40.32 square miles
Total Road Miles:	68
Form of Government:	Town Meeting
Tax Rate (2000):	$14.46
Population (1996):	3115
Public Schools:	Franklin Cty. Tech. School Northfield Elementary School Pioneer Valley Reg. School
Private Schools:	Linden Hill School Northfield Mt Hermon School

Other Information

East Northfield Water Co.: 498-3444 (Nfld Mt. Hermon)

Highway Dept. Garage: 49 Caldwell Rd - Phone: 498-5117

Northfield Water District: 498-2484 (Steve Malsch)

Senior Center: 69 Main St, Town Hall – Phone: 498-2186

Transfer Station: 31 Caldwell Rd – Hours: Wednesday 10:00 am – 6 pm, Saturday 8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Sunday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Wastewater Treatment Plant: 104 Meadow St – Phone: 498-5116
Operator – John "Jack" Patch

Wiring Inspector: Franklin County Co-Operative Wiring Inspector Program, County Court House, Greenfield – Phone: 774-5262
Edward Marchefka, Inspector

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DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

ACCOUNTANT: The Town Accountant is appointed by the Board of Selectmen for a 3-yr term. The Accountant examines all bills, drafts, orders & payrolls for accuracy, legality & proper signatures; prepares warrants for submission to the Treasurer for payment; keeps a complete set of books of the Town, showing appropriations & amount & purpose of expenditures, receipts from all sources and amount of assessments levied & abatements made; prepares monthly appropriation statements for all departments; receives all budgets in preparation for the next fiscal year & serves as liaison to, provides revenue statements, & works closely with the Finance Committee & with other Town officials in preparing the Town budget & in monitoring the Town's fiscal condition; prepares annual reports to the State & Town as required by law.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: The Administrative Assistant is appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Assistant implements & administers the wide range of policies & programs which come before the Board of Selectmen; researches & provides background for policy decisions; serves as liaison between the Selectmen's Office & other town departments, as well as with state and other municipal offices & the general public; contacts Town Counsel, with the approval of the Selectboard, when necessary; prepares bid specifications for goods and services; assists with the budget and prepares grant applications.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS: The Board of Assessors is comprised of three members elected for a 3-year term. The Board meets every 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise posted. The Assessors are required by Massachusetts Law to value all real & personal property based on "full & fair cash value" and are responsible for setting the tax rate; committing real & personal property to the Tax Collector; updating records for new construction; all abatements & motor vehicle excise; updating town tax maps & changes of address and reviewing all applications for abatements, exemptions & special land use qualifications.

BOARD OF HEALTH: The Board of Health is comprised of five members elected for a 3-year term. The Board meets every 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise posted. They perform duties relative to the protection of public health, the control of disease, the promotion of sanitary living conditions & the protection of the environment from damage and pollution. Mandated duties include health care and disease control; enforcement of housing and dwelling codes; monitoring of and providing for hazardous waste disposal; monitoring the transfer station; enforcement of Title 5; investigating nuisances which may be injurious to health; enforcing the State Sanitary Code involving food service establishments & enforcing the State Environmental Code regarding safety and sanitation of pools & beaches. The Board of Health has a part-time Health Agent, through the Town's membership in the Eastern Franklin County Health District. This is a very valuable service to the Town and the Board of Health.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER/ZONING OFFICER: The Building Commissioner/Zoning Officer is appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Commissioner works under the general supervision of the Selectmen, but has independent statutory authority under the state zoning & subdivision control laws for the issuance of permits under, and the enforcement of, the state building code. A major responsibility of the Zoning Officer is the interpretation & enforcement of local zoning to ensure compliance with zoning standards voted by Town Meeting. In cooperation with other Town Officials, he/she insures that public safety standards are met in all buildings, public & private, & in the development that occurs within the Town.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: The Finance Committee is comprised of six members appointed by the Town Moderator for a 3-year term. The committee meets every 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise posted. This committee is charged with the responsibility of providing guidance and recommendations to the Selectboard and to the community pertaining to fiscal matters. The committee initiates and conducts the budget process through the analysis of annual budgeting requests; meets with department heads and board chairs to review the budget requests which require close scrutiny; conducts one or more budget hearings or informational meetings prior to the Town Meeting; and provides recommendations for all expenditures at the Town Meeting.

PLANNING BOARD: The Planning Board is comprised of five members elected for a 5-year term. The Board meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise posted. The Board is mandated by state law to prepare & maintain the Town's Master Plan & Official Map; prepare, adopt & administer Subdivision Rules & Regulations; review all subdivision plans submitted under state & local by-laws & regulations; supervise construction of subdivision roads & drainage systems; prepare & present zoning amendments at Town Meeting; and review site plans for any changes in land use.

SELECTBOARD: The Selectboard is comprised of three members elected for a 3-year term. The Board meets every Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m., unless otherwise posted. The Selectboard are the Chief Administrative Officers of the town and supervise all matters that are not specifically delegated by law or vote to some other board or office. One of the most important functions of the Selectboard is the preparation of the Town Meeting warrant. The warrant is composed of articles outlining each subject on which the town meeting must vote. Articles for town finances, zoning changes, accepting funds and grants or disposing of property are a few examples of town warrant articles. Once voted, it is the responsibility of the Board to see to the implementation of the wishes of the voters. The Selectboard has the authority and responsibility to provide general policy direction; issue administrative orders; appoint and serve as hiring authority for most of the Town boards, committees and officials who administer Town government; engage and supervise Town legal counsel and approve actions; authorize all borrowing and all expenditures, including payroll; act as the Town licensing board, issuing alcohol, livery, auctioneer, and new and used car sales

licenses and common victuallers; publish the Annual Town Report and oversee municipal property and risk management for the Town: and enter into contracts on behalf of the Town.

TAX COLLECTOR: The Tax Collector is elected for a 3-year term. After receiving a list and warrant from the Assessors, the Collector collects taxes, together with any interest due; reports to the Treasurer all taxes, including charges, fees and interest received and deposited in any bank and turns funds over to the Treasurer for deposit. The Collector maintains collection accounts on real estate, personal property and motor vehicle excise tax bills. Delinquent bills are subsequently billed by means of demand notices and a series of delinquency letters. Unpaid tax bills may be advertised and the property eventually foreclosed by the Town for nonpayment. Unpaid motor vehicle excise tax bills are reported to the Registry for non-renewal of license or registration.

TOWN CLERK: The Town Clerk is elected for a 3-year term. The Clerk serves as Chief Election Officer & Local Registrar of Vital Records & Statistics, including Birth, Marriage & Death certificates; records & certifies all official actions of the Town & manages public access to information; issues various licenses (i.e. marriage, dog, fishing); serves ex officio as a member of the Board of Registrars & is responsible for carrying out the functions of the Board in preparation, publication & circulation of lists of voters; prepares the annual street list & town census; submits all bylaws passed by Town Meeting to the State Attorney General for approval.

TREASURER: The Treasurer is elected for a 3-year term. The Treasurer receives all money from municipal departments, including the Tax Collector; deposits funds; borrows for cash flow purposes and for approved capital projects; expends and accounts for funds after proper approval of the Town Accountant and Board of Selectmen; pays employees and witholds and maintains records on taxes; maintains and reconciles all of the Town's bank accounts and investments; performs monthly cash reconciliation with the Accountant, as well as quarterly cash reconciliation reports filed with the State Department of Revenue; and oversees foreclosure and tax title procedures turned over by the Tax Collector as a list of delinquent taxpayers.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: The Zoning Board of Appeals is comprised of five regular members for a 5-year term & five alternate members for a 3-year term appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The Board meets every 2nd Monday for business meetings and as posted for hearings. The ZBA acts in a quasi-judicial capacity on the issuance of certain special permit applications; petitions for variances from the requirements of the Zoning By-laws & appeals from the acts of the Building Inspector, or from the failure of the Building Inspector to act in response to a complaint from a citizen. The Board has power to receive testimony under oath. Most decisions of the ZBA may be appealed by an aggrieved party to the District, Superior, or Land Court.

STATE & FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES

UNITED STATES SENATORS
Edward M. Kennedy
Suite 2400
JFK Federal Office Building
Boston, MA 02203
(617) 565-3170
Or
315 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-4543
E-Mail – senator@kennedy.senate.gov

John F. Kerry
1350 State Street, 12th floor
Springfield, MA 01103
(413) 785-4610 or 4619
Boston: (617) 565-8519
Or
421 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-2742
E-Mail – John_Kerry@Kerry.Senate.Gov

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS
John W. Olver
57 Suffolk Street, Suite 310
Holyoke, MA 01040
(413) 532-7010
Fax: (413) 532-6543
Or
1027 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
E-Mail – olver@hr.house.gov

GOVERNOR
Argeo Paul Cellucci
State House, Room 360
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 727-9173

STATE SENATOR
Stephen M. Brewer
State House, Room 520
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 722-1540
Fax: (617) 722-1078
E-Mail – sbrewer@senate.state.ma.us

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT
John F. Merrigan
54 Congress Street
Greenfield, MA 01301
(413) 773-7340
Fax: (413) 773-7340
Or
State House, Room 36
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 722-2470
Fax: (617) 722-2897
E-Mail – rep.johnmerrigan@state.ma.us

FRANKLIN REGIONAL COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
Linda Dunlavy, Executive Director
Lisa White, Dir. Prog. Oper. & Marketing
James Toth, Regional Engineer
Peggy Sloan, Dir. Planning & Dev.
425 Main Stree, Greenfield, MA 01301
(413) 774-3167
Fax: (413) 774-3169
E-Mail – Info@frcog.org

TOWN OFFICERS

MAY 1999 TO MAY 2000

ELECTED OFFICIALS

BOARD OF ASSESSORS – 3-yr. term

Linwood Wallace, Chair	*Term expires May 2001*
Ronald Wickey	*Term expires May 2000*
Doris Balk	*Term expires May 2002*

BOARD OF HEALTH – 3-yr. term

Kathryn Bridges-Gray, Chair	*Term expires May 2001*
David R. Gibson	*Term expires May 2002*
Phillip Baker	*Term expires May 2000*
David Balk	*Term expires May 2000*
Karen Arsenault	*Term expires May 2001*

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – 3-yr. term

Joanne D. McGee, Chair	*Term expires May 2001*
Richard F. Taferner	*Term expires May 2000*
Ronald F. Reid	*Term expires May 2002*

CONSTABLES – 3-yr. term

David Brassor	*Term expires May 2001*
James B. O'Shea	*Term expires May 2001*
John D. Ware	*Term expires May 2001*
Fredd M. Fuller	*Term expires May 2001*

LIBRARY TRUSTEES – 3-yr. term

Jon McGowan, Chair	*Term expires May 2002*
Lucille Dahlman	*Term expires May 2002*
Debra Dirth	*Term expires May 2000*
Kathleen B. Nutter	*Term expires May 2000*
Michael Grunwald	*Term expires May 2001*
Phyllis Derigon	*Term expires May 2001*

MODERATOR – 3-yr. term

Thomas R. Shearer	*Term expires May 2000*

NORTHFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COUNCIL

Laurie Leese	*Mary Johnson*	*Kris Bowser*
MaryAnn Ladd	*Judith Loomis*	*Kathy Loveland*
Michele Steiner		

PIONEER VALLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Northfield Representatives – 4-yr. term

Patricia E. Shearer, Chair	*Term expires 2000*
Jed Proujansky	*Term expires 2000*
Mary Llewelyn	*Term expires 2002*

PLANNING BOARD – 5-yr. term

David Radebaugh, Chair	*Term expires May 2001*
John J. Jurkowski	*Term expires May 2003*
Bonnie L'Etoile	*Term expires May 2004*
Gary Weiss	*Term expires May 2000*
David Balk	*Term expires May 2002*

RECREATION COMMISSION – 3-yr. term

Deborah Taricano, Chair	*Term expires May 2002*
David Belcher	*Term expires May 2000*
Guy Newman	*Term expires May 2001*
Linda Peck	*Term expires May 2001*
Laurie Leese	*Term expires May 2002*
David Jurkowski	*Term expires May 2001*
Eugene Leonard	*Term expires May 2002*

SEWER COMMISSIONERS – 3-yr. term

Dan A. Gray, Chair	*Term expires May 2001*
Gary Sibilia	*Term expires May 2002*
Everett Wickline	*Term expires May 2000*

TAX COLLECTOR – 3-yr. term

Barbara J. Brassor	*Term expires May 2002*

TOWN CLERK – 3-yr. term

Mary C. Taferner	*Term expires May 2000*

TREASURER – 3-yr. term

Barbara J. Brassor	*Term expires May 2000*

APPOINTED OFFICIALS

APPOINTED BY MODERATOR 2000

FINANCE COMMITTEE – 3-yr. term

Lois Stearns, Chair	*Term expires July 2000*
Chadwick Glover	*Term expires July 2002*
Jane Abbott	*Term expires July 2002*
Reynold Henry	*Term expires July 2000*
David Yucavitch	*Term expires July 2001*
Carolyn Olsen	*Term expires July 2001*

FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT (Representative to) – 3-yr. term

James D. Whitney	*Term expires June 2000*

APPOINTED BY BOARD OF HEALTH 2000

ANIMAL INSPECTOR – 1-yr. term

Daniel Arsenault	*Term expires Mar 2000*

GAS PIPING & GAS APPLIANCE INSPECTOR – 1-yr. term

Frank S. Turner	*Term expires Dec 2000*

PLUMBING INSPECTOR – 1-yr. term

Frank S. Turner

APPOINTED BY SELECTMEN 2000

ACCOUNTANT – 3-yr. term

Deborah Mero	*Term expires July 2002*

BUILDING COMMISSIONER/ZONING OFFICER – 1-yr. term

James Hawkins	*Term expires Apr 2000*
Philip Delorey (alternate)	*Term expires Apr 2000*

CABLE TV ADVISORY COMMITTEE – 2-yr. term

Brian Brault, Co-Chair	*Term expires Dec 2001*
Judith Radebaugh, Co-Chair	*Term expires Dec 2001*
Brenda Kehmeier	*Term expires Dec 2001*
Eileen Dowd	*Term expires Dec 2001*
Carol Caldwell	*Term expires Dec 2000*

CABLE TV RENEGOTIATING COMMITTEE

Brian Brault	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Eileen Dowd	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Neil Katz	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Bill McGee	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Ray McIsaac	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Kathleen Nutter	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Richard Taferner	*Term expires Jan 2001*

CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTOR – 1-yr. term

Thomas Newton, Director	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Floyd M. Dunnell, III., Assistant	*Term expires Jan 2001*

CONSERVATION COMMISSION – 3-yr. term

Charles Blanker, Chair	*Term expires July 2002*
Mary Ann Wozniak	*Term expires July 2001*
William Llewelyn	*Term expires July 2002*
William C. Walker	*Term expires July 2002*
David Quinn, Jr.	*Term expires July 2000*
William Gabriel	*Term expires July 2001*

COUNCIL ON AGING – 3-yr. term

Mary J. Porter, Chair	*Term expires Jan 2003*
Raymond J. Parenteau	*Term expires Jan 2003*
Eileen U. Gorzocoski	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Helen Greene	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Cora Mae Rusk	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Gerald Tessier	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Shirley Nelson	*Term expires Jan 2003*
Mary Ann Wozniak	*Term expires Jan 2003*

CULTURAL COUNCIL – 3-yr. term (not to exceed 2 consecutive terms)

Anne Harlow, Chair	*Term expires July 2002*
Jeanne Sisson	*Term expires July 2000*
Sharon Miller	*Term expires July 2000*
Judy Clark	*Term expires July 2000*
Barbara Bowen	*Term expires July 2002*
Stephen Hussey	*Term expires July 2002*

DOG OFFICERS – 1-yr. term

Polly Severance	*Term exp. May 2000*
Kevin Gray	*Term exp. May 2000*

ELECTION OFFICERS – 1-yr. term

Edward Fortier	*Term expires Aug 2000*
Phyllis Derigon	*Term expires Aug 2000*
Judith Radebaugh	*Term expires Aug 2000*
Betty Gibson	*Term expires Aug 2000*
Ruth D. Johnson	*Term expires Aug 2000*
JoAnn Newton	*Term expires Aug 2000*
Gail Zukowski	*Term expires Aug 2000*

ELECTION OFFICERS – SUBSTITUTE

Ethel D. Fowler	*Term expires Aug 2000*
Alice Fortier	*Term expires Aug 2000*
Jane Abbott	*Term expires Aug 2000*
Helen Gorzocoski	*Term expires Aug 2000*
Richard F. Taferner	*Term expires Aug 2000*
Susan Sibilia	*Term expires Aug 2000*
Christine McCollester	*Term expires Aug 2000*

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS – 1-yr. term

Renee Lake, Director	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Danielle Flynn	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Linda Shedd, Training Officer	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Sharon E. Clark	*Term expires Jan 2001*
James Lake, Jr.	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Robert Inglehart	*Term expires Jan 2001*
James Dresser	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Thomas Bergeron	*Term expires Jan 2001*
David Nadeau	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Robert Leighton	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Chris Masloski	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Geoff Iacuessa	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Spencer Bristol, First Responder	*Term expires Jan 2001*

FIELD DRIVERS & FENCE VIEWERS – 1-yr. term

James E. Dresser, Jr. *Paul T. Gorzocoski* *Fredd Fuller*

FIRE DEPARTMENT – 1-yr. term

Floyd M. Dunnell, III, Fire Chief & Forest Fire Warden
David G. Quinn, Jr., Asst. Fire Chief & Deputy Fire Warden
Thomas Holton, Captain & Deputy Fire Warden
Rory Shippa, First Lieutenant & Deputy Fire Warden
Thomas Walker, Second Lieutenant
Steve Malsch, Third Lieutenant
(To be determined), Administrative Lieutenant

FRED W. WELLS WILL, TRUSTEE – 1-yr. term

Theodore G. Penick	*Term expires May 2000*

GRAVES OFFICER – 1-yr. term

Charles Field	*Term expires Apr 2000*

HISTORICAL COMMISSION – 3-yr. term

Homer Stavely, Chair	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Irene Jurkowski	*Term expires Jan 2002*
Alice Fortier	*Term expires Jan 2003*
Mary Jane Porter	*Term expires Jan 2003*
Edward M. Powell, Jr.	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Carolyn Spencer	*Term expires Jan 2002*

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief of Police – 3-yr. term

Gary M. Sibilia	*Term expires Feb 2003*

Officers – 3-yr. term

Sgt. Robert F. Leighton	*Term expires Jan 2003*
Spencer Bristol	*Term expires Jan 2003*
David R. Clark	*Term expires Jan 2003*
William Forrest	*Term expires Jan 2003*
John Raymer	*Term expires Jan 2003*
Todd Roche	*Term expires Jan 2003*
Linda Shedd	*Term expires Jan 2003*
John Waitkus	*Term expires Jan 2003*

Auxiliary Officers for Emergency Assignments – 1 yr. term

David G. Quinn, Sr.	*Term expires Jan 2001*
John D. Ware	*Term expires Jan 2001*
David R. Gibson	*Term expires Jan 2001*
James B. O'Sheas	*Term expires Jan 2001*
Philip Gallaspie	*Term expires Jan 2001*

For Mutual Aid purposes:

Chief Peter Brulotte – Bernardston P.D.
Sgt. Rian Graves – Bernardston P.D.
Officer Stephen McConley – Bernardston P.D.
Chief David Hastings – Gill P.D.
Officer Christopher Redman – Gill P.D.
Officer Mike Kruzuski – Gill P.D.
Chief John Paciorek – Erving P.D.

PUBLIC WEIGHERS – 1-yr. term

Donald S. Mason — *Pierina Bolton* — *Bruce Symington*
Ronald H. Laczynski — *James J. Marold* — *Brian Siano*
Kevin Taylor — *Bruce McWilliams* — *Renee Billiel*

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS – 3-yr. term

Mary C. Taferner — *Term expires Apr 2000*
Ruth D. Johnson — *Term expires Apr 2002*
Edward Fortier — *Term expires Apr 2002*
Mary Ann Ladd, Asst. Registrar — *Term expires Apr 2000*
Eleanor Landis, Asst. Registrar — *Term expires Apr 2001*

SUPERINTENDENT OF STREETS – 1-yr. term

David R. Gibson — *Term expires May 2000*

WIRING INSPECTOR

Edward F. Marchefka
Robert Graves, Alternate

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS, PLANNING BOARD – BOARD OF APPEALS

Regular members – 5-yr. term

Dianne Salls, Chair — *Term expires Jan 2005*
John Nelson — *Term expires Jan 2001*
William Forrest — *Term expires Jan 2003*
Marguerite Lentz — *Term expires Jan 2004*
Edward Shearer — *Term expires Jan 2002*

Alternate members – 3-yr. term

Thomas J. Russell — *Term expires Jan 2003*
George-Ann Liebl — *Term expires Jan 2003*
Laura DiBari — *Term expires Jan 2002*
Robert G. Barnes — *Term expires Jan 2001*

TOWN EMPLOYEES

(2000)

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Susan Draves

ASSESSORS CLERK
Carol Holden

COUNCIL ON AGING
Joanne Balzarini, Director

DICKINSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY
Barbara Mennard, Library Director
Sharon Miller, Library Assistant
Kelly Brassor, Library Technician
Nell Champoux, Page
Tracy Rogers, Custodian

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
Truck Drivers/Laborers
Robert M. Beaubien
Thomas M. Bergeron
William Lapine
Ralph T. Matthews
Michael Sibley
Kenneth Trask

POLICE DEPT. SECRETARY
Sharon Weyers

TOWN HALL CUSTODIAN
S. Edward Holloway

TOWN MAINTENANCE
Robert Beck

TOWN SECRETARY
Cherrie Smart
Shirley Thompson (Retired)

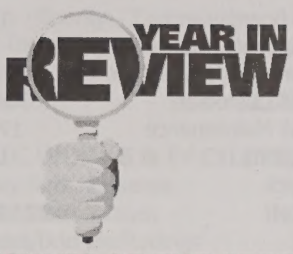
TRANSFER STATION ATTENDANT
Kenneth Trask

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT
John "Jack" Patch, Chief Operator
Gary Gannon, Assistant Chief Operator (part-time)
Gary West, Operator (part-time)

MEETING SCHEDULES

(Unless otherwise posted)

BOARD OF ASSESSORS
First & Third Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.
BOARD OF HEALTH
Second & Fourth Thursday @ 7:00 p.m.
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Every Tuesday @ 7:00 p.m.
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
Every Third Monday @ 7:00 p.m.
COUNCIL ON AGING
Every Third Thursday @ 10:00 p.m.
FINANCE COMMITTEE
Every Second Monday @ 7:00 p.m.
HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Every Second Thursday @ 7:30 p.m.
PLANNING BOARD
Every Second Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.
SENIOR CENTER
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday @ 8:00 a.m.
SEWER COMMISSION
As posted or as needed
TV NEGOTIATION COMMITTEE
Second Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
Every Second Monday @ 7:00(Bus.Mtg.)



RESULTS OF THE SPECIAL & ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MAY 3, 1999 AT 7:00 PM

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator, Mr. Thomas Shearer at 7:00 p.m.

Article 1. VOTED UNAN. that the Town **transfer** the sum of **$2,102.52** from available funds (Free Cash) to **pay Northfield's share of interest on borrowing up to $900,000 for planning purposes for the Pioneer Valley Regional School building project.**

Article 2. VOTED UNAN. that the Town **transfer** the sum of **$3,500** from available funds (Free Cash) for the professional **appraisal of Northfield's portion of the real estate and personal property of the Northfield Mountain Project**, to be done in conjunction with the Town of Erving.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Article 1. VOTED UNAN. to waive the reading of the Warrant and act on the motions of the following articles.

Article 2. VOTED UNAN. to hear and act upon the reports of the several Town Officers, Boards, Committees, Commissions & Trustees.

The following resolution was read by Selectman, Richard F. Taferner:

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the efficient administration of Town affairs is achieved through the largely voluntary assumption of official responsibilities by elected or appointed officers combined with the loyal and faithful service of salaried employees, and,

WHEREAS certain persons have during the past year concluded periods of service during which they have made substantial contributions to the public weal,

BE IT RESOLVED that the names and nature of service by the following named persons be herewith noticed and recorded in the minutes of this Annual Town Meeting of 1999 in grateful recognition of their work on behalf of the Town:

Bruce W. Jones	Selectmen
Warren E. Whitney	Assessor
Kathleen O'Shea	Rep. to PVRS Cmte.
Barbara Kibler	Rep. PVRS Cmte.
Mark Trumbull	Board of Health
Susan Giles	Finance Committee
George LaPenta	Erving P.D. for Mutual Aid
Christopher Bonnett	Aux. Police Officer for Emergency Assig.
Karen Fleury	EMT
Adam McOwen	EMT
Lionel Gagnon	EMT
Jason Vaudry	EMT
Jay Nelson	EMT
Michelle Otto	EMT
James Fleury	1st Responder
Helen Greene	Election Officer
Susan Sibilia	Election Officer
Sharon Billings	Sub. Election Officer
Gloria Billings	Sub. Election Officer
Mary O'Connell	Sub. Election Officer
Phyllis Derigon	Sub. Election Officer
JoAnn Newton	Sub. Election Officer
Raymond Clark	ZBA
Joanne McGee	ZBA
Stanley Gaida	ZBA
Laurel Lussen	Conservation Comm.
Robert Hendry	Conservation Comm.

Northfield Selectboard May 3, 1999

Article 3. VOTED UNAN. that the Town authorize the Selectboard to **accept** from any association, agency, proprietorship,

corporation, enterprise, individual, etc., a **sum or sums of money, or gift for the benefit of the Town** or any of its departments, etc.

Article 4. VOTED UNAN. that the Town **upon exceeding the levy limit**, to approve that any monies that exceed the monies recommended by the Finance Committee under Article 5, or any other Article of this Fiscal Year 2000 Annual Town Meeting shall be contingent upon the **approval by the voters of an "Override of Proposition 2 ½".**

Article 5. VOTED UNAN. that the Town, under provisions of Chapter 41, Section 108 of the General Laws of Massachusetts, or any amendments thereto, **fix the salaries of all elected officials for Fiscal Year 2000**, and raise and appropriate any sum or sums therefor, and further **raise and appropriate** any sum or sums of money for the **maintenance of the several departments of the Town**, and for other necessary charges. The Finance Committee recommended as listed in the Budget Summary.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

Moderator Salary	0.00
Moderator Expense	80.00
Selectmen Salaries	4326.00
Selectmen Expense	8100.00
Admin. Assistant Salary	34310.00
Secretary Salary	24298.00
Finance Committee Expense	315.00
Reserve Fund	10000.00
Accountant Salary	16198.00
Accountant Expense	335.00
Assessors Salaries	4753.00
Assessors Clerk Salary	18200.00
Assessor's Expense	7557.00
Treasurer Salary	8565.00
Treasurer Expense	3500.00
Tax Collector Salary	6005.00
Tax Collector Expense	6600.00
Town Legal Counsel	18100.00
Computer Supply/Service	5510.00
Tax Title Foreclosure	2300.00
Copy Machine Supply/Service	2000.00
Town Clerk Salary	5524.00
Town Clerk Expense	700.00
Elections & Registrations	5000.00
Conservation Commission	620.00
Planning Board	1490.00
Zoning Appeals Board	500.00
Land Damages	1.00
Town Hall Custodian	8102.00
Town Hall Maintenance	17500.00
Town Reports	1400.00
Town Clock	150.00
Total:	**221949.00**

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Police Wages & Salaries	103902.00
Police Chief	39403.00
Sargeant	30506.00
P.T. Officers	23505.00
Holiday - Chief	1667.00
O.T. Wages	6821.00
Police Grant Incentives	2000.00
Police Operation Expense	17725.00
Fire Dept. Salaries	3815.00
Fire Chief	1963.00
1st Fire Warden	394.00
Pub. Safety Officer	197.00
Fire Dept. Secretary	261.00
Assistant Chief	400.00
Captain	200.00
Lieutenant 4 @ $100	400.00
Fire Dept. Wages	15400.00
Fire Dept. Operating Expense	9000.00
Hose & Equipment	7000.00
Inspection Fees	1400.00
Hydrants	3500.00
Maintenance Fire Station	8000.00
Fireponds/Waterholes	2500.00
Ambulance Service	0.00
EMT Wages & Salaries	4722.00
EMT Expense	3115.00
Building Inspector Salary	17809.00
Building Inspector Expense	2590.00
Wire Inspector Program	7791.00
Civil Defense	500.00
Dog Officer Salary	2288.00
Dog Officer Expense	1450.00
Tree Dept. Wages & Expense	5000.00
Constables Wages	496.00
Constables Expense	30.00
Fence Viewers, Etc.	1.00
Total:	**218034.00**

EDUCATION:

PVRS Operating Assessment	1880758.00
PVRS Capital Assessment	24286.00
PVRS-Bldg. Project Assess	144415.00
PVRS Teachers Salary Def.	4536.47

Franklin County Technical School Operating Assess.	84996.00
Elementary School Maint.	850.00
Total:	**2139841.47**

PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES:

Highway Supt. Expense	6480.00
Highway Dept. Wages	171633.00
Highways/Bridges/Railings	80000.00
Oiling & Stoning	60000.00
Highway Tools	1000.00
Snow Removal Expense	51800.00
Street Lights	13150.00
Machinery Maintenance	65000.00
Maintenance Hwy Garage	4000.00
Hwy Bounds/Surveys/Lists	1.00
Solid Waste District	5060.00
Waste Disposal	103600.00
Sewer Commission Salaries	1070.00
Sewer Commission Expense	67.00
Sewer Dept. Collector	527.00
Sewer Dept. Wages	48201.00
Oper. & Maint. Sewer Plant	58071.00
Cemetery Wages & Expense	1200.00
Total:	**670860.00**

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES:

Board of Health Salaries	1782.00
Board of Health Expense	2600.00
Board of Health Secretary	650.00
Shared Health Agent	6611.25
Septic System Insp. Fees	2000.00
Animal Inspector	1500.00
Council On Aging	9540.00
Soldiers Relief	2500.00
Total:	**27183.25**

CULTURE & RECREATION:

Dickinson Library Wages	51151.00
Dickinson Library Expense	22045.00
Northfield Farms Library	450.00
Recreation Commission	7000.00
Maintenance, Athletic Field	2000.00
Historical Society Building	400.00
Historical Commission	200.00
Memorial Day	1200.00
Alexander Hall	340.00
FRCOG Assess.(Spec.Art.'98)	22428.00
Total:	**107214.00**

DEBT SERVICE:

Maturing Debt – Prin.	223894.93
Sewer (Bnds 1/92)	25000.00
Sch. (Bnds 1/92)	175000.00
Sewer (Bnds 7/93)	23894.93
Interest on Long Term Debt	144591.07
Sewer (Bnds 1/92)	12420.00
Sch. (Bnds 1/92)	104595.00
Sewer (Bnds 7/93)	27576.07
Interest on Short Term Debt	3000.00
Total:	**371486.00**

MISCELLANEOUS:

Workers Comp. Insurance	10782.00
Unemployment	1000.00
Health Insurance	66000.00
Life Insurance	700.00
Medicare/FICA	11000.00
Other Insurance	25716.00
Total:	**115198.00**

GRAND TOTAL:	**3871765.72**

Article 6. VOTED UNAN. to **accept and expend any sum or sums of money that may be available from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts**, (Mass Highway Dept.) for Chapter 90-type construction/improvements reconstruction of public ways; and to **authorize the Selectboard to enter into contracts relative thereto**, and to appropriate said sum or sums in anticipation of reimbursement from the Commonwealth.

Article 7. VOTED BY 2/3 to **amend the Northfield Protective Regulations By-Law (Flood Plain District)** as presented under this article on the Warrant of the Annual Town Meeting of May 3, 1999.

Article 8. VOTED BY 2/3 to **amend the Northfield Protective Regulations By-Law (Telecommunications)** as presented under this article on the Warrant of the Annual Town Meeting of May 3, 1999.

Article 9. VOTED UNAN. that the Town authorize the Selectboard **to apply for state or federal grants**, and to expend any monies received, as set forth in the appropriate grant applications.

Article 10. VOTED UNAN. that the Town authorize the Board of Selectmen to **lease a parcel** (or portion thereof) **of town-**

owned land located on Caldwell Road (Map 25, Parcel C1) for a period of up to 20 years, **for the erection of a telecommunications tower.**

Article 11. VOTED UNAN. **that the Town adopt the following resolution:**

Resolution to Seek Lower Electric Rates In a Competitive Electricity Market

Whereas the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, by enacting Chapter 164 of the Acts of 1997, has established a competitive marketplace through deregulation and restructuring of the electric industry; and,

Whereas citizens of the Town of Northfield have substantial economic, environmental and social interests at stake; and,

Whereas the Town of Northfield's residential and business consumers are interested in reducing their electric rates and improving service;

Be it therefore resolved that the Town Meeting of Northfield grant the Board of Selectmen authority to develop and participate in a contract, or contracts for power supply and other related services, independently or in joint action with other towns or cities. In the instance of joint actions with other towns or cities, the chief executive officer of the town or city is hereby authorized to execute an intermunicipal agreement for this purpose, to develop an energy plan, and to further comply with all requirements for the aggregated purchase of energy and energy related services as required by the Commonwealth. If such contracts are to be approved, individual consumers would retain the option not to participate and to choose any alternative for service they desire, and,

Be it further resolved that the chief executive officer will appoint a representative to a sub-committee of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments to oversee the development of any such joint action and make recommendations to the Council and member towns.

Article 12. VOTED UNAN. that the Town, pursuant to M.G.L., c.44, s.53E ½ **authorize the use of a Revolving Fund** for the purpose of operating **Northfield Community Television**, the Town's Public Access TV Station, which fund shall be credited with receipts realized by franchise fees from MediaOne, the Town's Cable TV Service Provider (or its successor), under the authority and direction of the Cable TV Advisory Committee, with expenditures **not to exceed $700.**

Article 13. VOTED UNAN. that the Town, pursuant to M.G.L., c.44, s.53E ½, authorize the use of a **Revolving Fund** for the purpose of conducting a town-wide special gathering, **"The Great Northfield Barbecue,"** on Labor Day Weekend, 1999, which fund shall be credited with receipts from sponsors and fees charged to vendors under the authority and direction of the Board of Selectmen, such expenses **not to exceed $10,000.**

Article 14. VOTED UNAN. that the Town **accept** the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 41, Section 108L, **"Police Career Incentive Pay Program"**, otherwise known as the Quinn Bill.

Article 15. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$20,400** to pay **one-half** the **premium costs** payable in FY2000 by **retired** Town of Northfield **employees** for **life and medical insurances**, contingent upon the affirmative vote of Question 1 on the May 4, 1999 Annual Election ballot.

Article 16. VOTED BY 2/3 VOTE (1 NO VOTE) that the Town **transfer $101,100** from the Stabilization Fund to **replace existing windows** in the north and south buildings of the **Northfield Elementary School.**

Article 17. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$12,600** for miscellaneous **capital repairs** at the **Northfield Elementary School.**

Article 18. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$18,000** to purchase approximately 3,000 feet of 4-inch diameter **water supply hose** for the **Northfield Fire Department.**

Article 19. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$3,500** to purchase a new semi-automatic **defibrillator** for the **Northfield EMT's.**

Article 20. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$1,200** to purchase a **personal computer** for the **Northfield EMT's.**

Article 21. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$4,000** to purchase a **snowplow** and associated **hydraulic system** for the **Highway Dept.**

Article 22. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$5,000** to purchase a **fuel oil furnace** for the **Highway Garage.**

Article 23. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$29,120** to **fund the salary of one full-time staff position** whose responsibilities will include the **maintenance, up-keep and cleanliness of town-owned buildings**; and **furthermore** raise and appropriate amounts to **supplement the accounts in Article #5 as follows:**

Health Insurance	$5,350.00
Life Insurance	50.00
Unemployment	40.00
Medicare	560.00
Workers' Compensation	3,000.00
Total:	**$9,000.00**

Article 24. VOTED BY MAJORITY VOTE that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$9,000** to **fund a personnel study** of all full and part-time positions and elected positions of the Town Clerk, Treasurer and Tax Collector. The purpose of the study is to ensure equitable and appropriate compensation and will include the development of position descriptions, grades and salary ranges.

Article 25. VOTED BY MAJORITY VOTE that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$25,000** to **climate control the Dickinson Memorial Library.**

Article 26. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$1,500** to **preserve the Town Clerk's vital records.**

Article 27. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$8,000** to supplement the account to **repair** the **Town Hall roof.**

Article 28. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$7,000** to replace the **copier** in the **Town Hall.**

Article 29. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$8,000** to fund a professional **space utilization study** to determine the feasibility of **restructuring the Town Hall, Boy Scout House and Pine Street School buildings** to provide **improved accessibility and efficiency.**

Article 30. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$17,500** to **stabilize the Pine Street School building.**

Article 31. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$1,000** to provide a **voluntary match for a state-sponsored grant to fund a study to identify any areas in town that may be suitable for commercial and/or light industrial development**, the project to include data collection, analysis, mapping and policy recommendations which may include potential zoning revisions.

Article 32. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$8,000** for the **preservation of record books** in the Board of **Assessor's office.**

Article 33. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$6,500** for the Fiscal Year 2001 **revaluation of real estate and personal property.**

Article 34. VOTED UNAN. that the Town **take no action on this article.** (Stabilization Fund)

Article 35. VOTED UNAN. that the Town instruct the **Assessors to transfer** the sum of **$250,000 from available funds** for the purpose of **reducing the Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2000.**

A True Copy ATTEST: Mary C. Taferner
Town Clerk

RESULTS OF THE TOWN ELECTION MAY 4, 1999

At the time and place set forth in the Warrant, the polls were opened at 8:00 a.m. Two hundred twenty-four votes were cast with the following results:

Selectman (Three years)

Ronald F. Reid	177
Robert Barnes	12
Tom Boisvert	1
Donald Duck	1
Betty Gibson	1
Reynold Henry	1
David Johnson	1
Margaret Livingstone	2
Richard Parsons	1
David Radebaugh	1
William Roberts	1
Ronald Wickey	1
Blanks	24

Assessor (Three years)

Doris S. Balk	203
William Hume	1
David Quinn	1
Blanks	19

Tax Collector (Three years)

Barbara J. Brassor	215
Peter Hayes	1
Blanks	8

Library Trustees (Three years)

Lucille Dahlman	199
Jon G. McGowan	184
Marguerite Lentz	1
Mary Metcalf	1
Blanks	63

Planning Board (Five years)

Bonnie L'Etoile	189
Richard Parsons	1
Linda Shedd	1
Blanks	23

Planning Board (Four years)

John F. Jurkowksi	198
Blanks	26

Board of Health (Three years)

David R. Gibson	210
Blanks	14

Sewer Commission (Three years)

Gary M. Sibilia	210
Betty Gibson	1
Kevin Murphy	1
Doris Balk	1
Blanks	14

Recreation Commission (Three years)

Eugene T. Leonard	170
Laurie Leese	185
Deborah Taricano	181
Laurie Shaw	2
Ron Graves	1
David Lotious	1
Blanks	132

Recreation Commission (Two years)

David Jurkowski	196
Blanks	28

Question 1.

Yes	181
No	38
Blanks	5

Question 2.

Yes	162
No	47
Blanks	15

The polls were closed at 8:00 p.m.

ATTEST: Mary C. Taferner, Town Clerk

RESULTS OF THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING SEPTEMBER 13, 1999

The Special Town Meeting was called to order at approximately 7:05 p.m. by the Moderator, Mr. Thomas Shearer. One hundred thirty-eight voters were present and voted on the following articles:

Article 1. VOTED UNAN. that the Town waive the reading of the Warrant and act on the motions of the following articles.

Article 2. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$1,400** to purchase a **snow-blower** for use at the **Town Hall.**

Article 3. VOTED UNAN. that the Town **take no action. (Converter for the transfer station.)**

Article 4. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$250** to purchase a **Telecommunication Device for the Deaf** (TTY) for use at the **Town Hall.**

Article 5. VOTED UNAN. that the Town raise and appropriate the sum of **$4,000** to pay salary and/or consulting costs associated with **training replacement** for the positions of **Town Clerk and Town Secretary.**

Article 6. MOTION WAS MADE that the Town approve the amount of $4,325,000.00 debt authorized by the Pioneer Valley Regional School (PVRS) Committee on July 19, 1999, under and pursuant to Chapter 71, Section 16D of the Massachusetts General Laws and the PVRS District Agreement, in addition to the $17,275,000.00 previously authorized, for the purpose of reconstructing, adding to, equipping, remodeling or making extraordinary repairs to the Pioneer Valley Regional School, including costs incidental and related thereto, provided that the amount to be borrowed for such purpose be reduced by any gifts received by the District.

MOTION WAS MADE to amend the first motion by adding after "District", provided further that this approval is contingent upon the approval by the voters of a debt exclusion question pursuant to Proposition 2 ½, so called and, in the event that the debt exclusion question is not passed by the voters, this Town Meeting vote shall be considered a disapproval for purposes of G.L., c.71, §16B. MOTION TO AMEND WAS DEFEATED.

At this time, the Moderator called for a show of hands vote on the first motion. However, Town Clerk requested a paper ballot vote to get a more accurate count. MOTION WAS MADE and voted unanimously to have a paper ballot vote with the following results:

BY MAJORITY VOTE
YES 107
NO 31

The Meeting was closed at 8:30 p.m.

A True Copy Attest: Mary C. Taferner
Town Clerk

RESULTS OF THE SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION SEPTEMBER 14, 1999

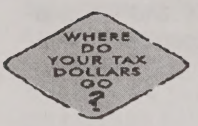
The polls were opened at 8:00 a.m. Two hundred and seventy five ballots were cast with the following result.

Question 1. Shall the Town of Northfield be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so called, its apportioned share of the amounts required to pay for the additional bonds issued by the Pioneer Valley Regional School District in order to finance costs of restructuring, adding to, equipping, remodeling or making extraordinary repairs to the Pioneer Valley Regional School?

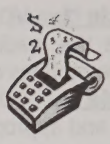
YES 181
NO 94

The polls were closed at 8:00 p.m.

A True Attest: Mary C. Taferner
Town Clerk



ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT
TOWN OF NORTHFIELD
BALANCE SHEET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1999



GENERAL FUND

ASSETS				
Cash & Investments				
Gfld Co-op Bank- Checking			941,330	
Tax Collector Checking			200	
MMDT-Combined Investment			193,774	
State St- Oth S/T Inv			280,884	
Cash Due To/From Oth Funds			(29,597)	1,386,591
Accounts Receivable				
Personal Property Taxes				
	1990	40		
	1991	43		
	1992	34		
	1993	37		
	1994	38		
	1995	151		
	1996	207		
	1997	131		
	1998	222		
	1999	631	1,534	
Real Estate Taxes				
	1997	133		
	1998	13,730		
	1999	67,047		
	2000	(2,752)	78,158	
Allowance for Abate & Exempt				
	1990	(40)		
	1991	(43)		
	1992	(34)		
	1993	(37)		
	1994	(38)		
	1995	(151)		
	1996	(207)		
	1997	(264)		
	1998	(12,179)		
	1999	(8,170)	(21,163)	
Tax Liens			47,807	
Motor Vehicle Excise			29,979	
Boat Excise			190	
Farm Animal Excise			414	136,919
Sewer Use	1998		2,330	
	1999		(550)	1,780
Sewer Liens				1,097
Other Assets				
Prepaid Expenses				368
Tax Foreclosures				1,370
				1,528,125

LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE		
Warrants Payable		80,6
Accounts Payable		49,3
Accrued Payrolls Payable		5,9
Fees Payable		9
Payroll Withholdings		8
Other Liabilities		
Due to Cty/Dog Lic	0	
Unclaimed Checks	2,469	
Bid Bonds	300	2,7
Deferred Revenue		
Property Taxes 1998	1,774	
Property Taxes 1999	59,507	
Property Taxes 2000	(2,752)	
Tax Liens	47,807	
Tax Foreclosures	1,370	
Motor Vehicle Excise	29,979	
Other Excise	604	
Sewer Use	1,780	
Sewer Liens	1,097	141,1
Fund Balance		
Res-Debt Excl Ammort	55,022	
Res-Continuing Approps	221,760	
Res-Over/Under Assessmt	(280)	
Res-Expenditures	250,000	
Unreserved	719,985	1,246,4
		1,528,1

HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS FUND

ASSETS		
Cash- due to/from Genl Fund	(56,240)	
Due from Comm of Mass	767,024	
		710,784

LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE		
Deferred Revenue	767,024	
Fund Bal-Ch85A	(26,155)	
Fund Bal-Ch85B	(12,651)	
Fund Bal-Ch204	7	
Fund Bal-Ch113B	(17,441)	
		710,7

TOWN GRANTS FUND

ETS		LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE		
Council Savings	4,003	Fund Balances		
-due from Genl Fund	16,053	Arts Council	4,003	
		Cops Fast	(6,844)	
		Cops More	(331)	
		Cmty Policing	7,562	
		Police Reg Stdy	1,000	
		DARE	139	
		COA	19	
		Library LIG/MEG	5,021	
		Title V Septic	9,487	
	20,056			20,056

RECEIPTS RESERVED FOR APPROPRIATION

ETS		LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE		
-Due from General Fund	55,944	Fund Balances		
		Road Mach Earnings	6,431	
		Sale of Real Estate	5,569	
		Sale Low Value Land	98	
		Sale of Cem Lots	39,734	
		County Dog Fund	4,112	
	55,944			55,944

REVOLVING FUNDS AND GIFTS

ETS		LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE		
eation Checking	7,262	Warrants Payable		1,008
er Fund Savings	5,329	Accounts Payable		75
ennett-Fee Acct	914	Unclaimed Cks- Rec Revolv		40
-Due from Genl Fund	12,106	Fund Balances		
		Rec Revolv	6,138	
		Ladder Gifts	5,329	
		Police Gifts	171	
		Drug Forfeiture	8	
		Childrens Book Gifts	907	
		Historical Comm Gift	57	
		Historical Bldg Restit	44	
		Maint Cem Markers	580	
		Library Gifts	1,927	
		Library Centennial	70	
		Generator Gift	286	
		Bennett-BOH	795	
		Bennett-Plan Bd	119	
		Cable TV Revolv	646	
		EMT Gifts	20	
		COA Gifts	3,381	
		NHM Emerg Serv	11	
		Cons Comm Fees	3,391	
		Map Framing Gifts	105	
		Great BBQ	503	24,488
	25,611			25,611

INFIL/INFLOW SEWER

ETS		LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE		
-Due from General Fund	37	Warrants Payable		0
from Stabilization Fund	1,802	Fund Balance		1,839
	1,839			1,839

TRUST FUNDS

ASSETS		
M Alexander-Checking	3,399	
M Alexander-CDs	76,340	
P. Bowman-Invest. Acct	78,016	
Trust Funds- Invest. Acct	201,335	
Cash-Due from Genl Fund	1,697	
		360,787
		360,787

LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE			
Accounts Payable			48
Accrued Payrolls Payable			387
Fund Balances- Non Expendable			
PC Center Cem	15,638		
Belcher Cem	2,000		
J Cowles Cem	2,000		
C Stearns Cem	500		
F Lane Cem	202		
PC West Nfld Cem	5,427		
Priest, et ux Cem	7,292		
L Holton Cem	101		
PC Nlfd Farms	7,727		
PC Mt Hermon Cem	4,975		
M Callander Cem	500		
PC Pentecost Cem	3,100		
PC So. Mtn. Cem	100		
Bowman Library	78,193		
Belcher Library	9,739		
C Dickinson Library	3,000		
M Montague Library	2,010		
DAR Book Fund	100		
Holton Library	500		
McGowan Library	7,933		
Charity- Various	21,450		
Surplus Rev- School	1,600		
Belcher Ctr. School	2,000		176,087
Fund Balances-Expendable			
PC Center Cem	14,337		
PC West Nfld Cem	3,289		
PC Nlfd Farms	4,645		
PC Mt Hermon Cem	4,632		
PC Pentecost Cem	208		
PC So. Mtn. Cem	37		
Bowman Library	(224)		
Belcher Library	3,056		
C Dickinson Library	908		
M Montague Library	2,489		
DAR Book Fund	162		
Holton Library	397		
Merriman Library	1,286		
E Jackson Library	522		
M Stanley Library	655		
R Giles Library	2,415		
McGowan Library	708		
Library Bldg Fund	1,113		
M Alexander Charity	72,789		
L Evans Charity	6,175		
G Morgan Charity	11,305		
R Evans Charity	2,397		
M Starkweather Char	33,103		
E Alexander Charity	10,642		
Surplus Rev- School	661		
Belcher Ctr. School	2,453		
E Jackson- Town	1,697		
W Parker-Mnt Mrkrs	1,631		
Tercentenary Comm	777	184,265	360,7

STABILIZATION FUND

TS		LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE		
T Investment Acct	256,140	Due to I/I Sewer Project	1,802	
		Fund Balance	254,338	
	256,140			256,140

AGENCY FUNDS

TS		LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	
Due from General Fund	0	Police Outside Detail Payable	0

GENERAL LONG TERM DEBT

TS		LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE		
		Bonds-Issued 7/92 School	1,875,000	
		Bonds-Issued 7/92 Sewer	225,000	
o be Provided for Pmt of Debt	2,625,259	Bonds-Issued 7/93 Sewer	525,259	2,625,259

COMBINED STATEMENT OF
REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, & CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
ALL ACCOUNT TYPES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1999

	General Fund	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Trust Funds	Total (Memorandum)
Revenues					
Taxes	2,986,311	0	0	0	2,986,311
Charges for Services	164,165	26,324	0	0	190,489
Licenses & Permits	34,379	431	0	0	34,810
Fines & Forfeitures	21,411	0	0	0	21,411
Other Deptmntal Revenue	0	5,978	0	0	5,978
Revenue from the State	558,514	365,575	0	0	924,089
Other Intergovmtal Revenue	0	33,274	0	0	33,274
Miscellaneous Revenue	5,725	894	0	0	6,619
Interest on Investments	40,418	4,558	0	24,383	69,359
Contributions & Donations	0	3,310	0	2,700	6,010
Total Revenues	3,810,923	440,344	0	27,083	4,278,350
Expenditures					
General Government	215,687	274	0	0	215,961
Public Safety	215,779	88,798	0	0	304,577
Education	1,818,163	0	0	0	1,818,163
Public Works & Facilities	624,535	225,094	0	5,259	854,888
Health & Human Services	23,671	132,073	0	700	156,444
Culture & Recreation	99,244	31,694	0	4,602	135,540
Capital Outlay	0	0	0	0	0
Debt Principal	222,703	0	0	0	222,703
Debt Interest	155,983	0	0	0	155,983
Temporary Loan Interest	0	0	0	0	0
Intergovmtal Assessments	28,466	0	0	0	28,466
Insurance & Empl Benefits	143,238	0	0	0	143,238
Total Expenditures	3,547,468	477,933	0	10,561	4,035,962
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	263,455	(37,589)	0	16,522	242,388
Other financing sources (uses)		0	0	0	0
Transfers from other Funds	50,054	4,986	0	60,110	115,150
Transfers to other Funds	(60,000)	(55,150)	0	0	(115,150)
Proceeds from Bond Issue	0	0	0	0	0
Total other financing sources (uses)	(9,946)	(50,164)	0	60,110	0
Excess of revenues & other sources over (under) expenditures & other uses	253,509	(87,753)	0	76,632	242,388
Fund Balance June 30, 1998	992,978	131,999	1,839	538,058	1,664,874
Fund Balance June 30, 1999	1,246,487	44,246	1,839	614,690	1,907,262

COMBINING STATEMENT OF
REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, & CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1999

	Ch 90 Hwy Imprvmnt	COPS Fast	COPS More	State aid to Library	Arts Council	Elderly Programs	EOCD Hsg Rehab Rets	EOCD Small Town	Title V Septic	Pol Regliz Study	DARE Grants
Revenues											
Taxes											
Charges for Services											
Licenses & Permits											
Fines & Forfeitures											
Other Deptmntal Revenue											
Revenue from the State	180,499			2,871	3,300	2,483		128,297			6,000
Other Intergovmtal Revenue		27,444	4,682								
Miscellaneous Revenue											
Interest on Investments					62		4,312				
Contributions & Donations											
Total Revenues	180,499	27,444	4,682	2,871	3,362	2,483	4,312	128,297	0	0	6,000
Expenditures											
General Government											
Public Safety		29,629	3,693								7,951
Education											
Public Works & Facilities	224,200										
Health & Human Services						3,576		128,297			
Culture & Recreation				4,844	1,975						
Capital Outlay											
Debt Principal											
Debt Interest											
Temporary Loan Interest											
Intergovmtal Assessments											
Insurance & Empl Benefits											
Total Expenditures	224,200	29,629	3,693	4,844	1,975	3,576	0	128,297	0	0	7,951
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	(43,701)	(2,185)	989	(1,973)	1,387	(1,093)	4,312	0	0	0	(1,951)
Other financing sources (uses)											
Transfers from other Funds		4,986									
Transfers to other Funds							(50,054)				
Proceeds from Bond Issue											
Total other financing sources (uses)	0	4,986	0	0	0	0	(50,054)	0	0	0	0
Excess of revenues & other sources over (under) expenditures & other uses	(43,701)	2,801	989	(1,973)	1,387	(1,093)	(45,742)	0	0	0	(1,951)
Fund Balance June 30, 1998	(12,539)	(9,645)	(1,320)	6,994	2,616	1,111	45,742	0	9,487	1,000	2,090
Fund Balance June 30, 1999	(56,240)	(6,844)	(331)	5,021	4,003	18	0	0	9,487	1,000	139

	Community Policing	County Dog Fund	Sale of R.E.	Sale of Cem Lots	Machine Earnings	Sale Low Val Land	Rec Revolving	Great BBQ	Cable TV Revolving	Conserv Comm Fees	Map Frame Gifts
Revenues											
Taxes											
Charges for Services							26,324				
Licenses & Permits									431		
Fines & Forfeitures											
Other Deptmntal Revenue				5,400	538					40	
Revenue from the State	42,125										
Other Intergovmtal Revenue		1,148									
Miscellaneous Revenue											
Interest on Investments							45				
Contributions & Donations								631			379
Total Revenues	42,125	1,148	0	5,400	538	0	26,369	631	431	40	379
Expenditures											274
General Government											
Public Safety	40,672										
Education											
Public Works & Facilities											
Health & Human Services											
Culture & Recreation							23,725	128	119		
Capital Outlay											
Debt Principal											
Debt Interest											
Temporary Loan Interest											
Intergovmtal Assessments											
Insurance & Empl Benefits											
Total Expenditures	40,672	0	0	0	0	0	23,725	128	119	0	274
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	1,453	1,148	0	5,400	538	0	2,644	503	312	40	105
Other financing sources (uses)											
Transfers from other Funds											
Transfers to other Funds	(4,986)										
Proceeds from Bond Issue											
Total other financing sources (uses)	(4,986)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Excess of revenues & other sources over (under) expenditures & other uses	(3,533)	1,148	0	5,400	538	0	2,644	503	312	40	105
Fund Balance June 30, 1998	11,095	2,964	5,569	34,334	5,893	98	3,494	0	334	3,351	0
Fund Balance June 30, 1999	7,562	4,112	5,569	39,734	6,431	98	6,138	503	646	3,391	105

	Bennett BOH &PlanBd	Pol Dpt Gifts	DARE Prog Donations	Ladder Fnd Donations	C.O.A. Gifts	Vt Yankee Generator	Library Gifts	Childrens Book Fund
Revenues								
Taxes								
Charges for Services								
Licenses & Permits								
Fines & Forfeitures								
Other Deptmntal Revenue								
Revenue from the State								
Other Intergovmtal Revenue								
Miscellaneous Revenue								
Interest on Investments	20			118				
Contributions & Donations		434			147		1,719	
Total Revenues	20	434	0	118	147	0	1,719	0
Expenditures								
General Government								
Public Safety		1,312	68			484		
Education								
Public Works & Facilities								
Health & Human Services					200			
Culture & Recreation							903	
Capital Outlay								
Debt Principal								
Debt Interest								
Temporary Loan Interest								
Intergovmtal Assessments								
Insurance & Empl Benefits								
Total Expenditures	0	1,312	68	0	200	484	903	0
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	20	(878)	(68)	118	(53)	(484)	816	0
Other financing sources (uses)								
Transfers from other Funds								
Transfers to other Funds								
Proceeds from Bond Issue								
Total other financing sources (uses)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Excess of revenues & other sources over (under) expenditures & other uses	20	(878)	(68)	118	(53)	(484)	816	0
Fund Balance June 30, 1998	894	1,049	68	5,210	3,434	770	1,111	907
Fund Balance June 30, 1999	914	171	0	5,328	3,381	286	1,927	907

	D. Library Bldg Fund	Library Centennial	Historic Comm Gift	Drug Forfeiture	NMH Emerg Serv Gift	EMT Gifts	Gft Maint Cem Mrkrs	Hist Soc Restit	Insurance Settlements	Grand Total Special Revenue
Revenues										
Taxes										0
Charges for Services										26,324
Licenses & Permits										431
Fines & Forfeitures										0
Other Deptmntal Revenue										5,978
Revenue from the State										365,575
Other Intergovmtal Revenue										33,274
Miscellaneous Revenue									894	894
Interest on Investments	1									4,558
Contributions & Donations										3,310
Total Revenues	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	894	440,344
Expenditures										
General Government										274
Public Safety					4,989					88,798
Education										0
Public Works & Facilities									894	225,094
Health & Human Services										132,073
Culture & Recreation										31,694
Capital Outlay										0
Debt Principal										0
Debt Interest										0
Temporary Loan Interest										0
Intergovmtal Assessments										0
Insurance & Empl Benefits										0
Total Expenditures	0	0	0	0	4,989	0	0	0	894	477,933
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	1	0	0	0	(4,989)	0	0	0	0	(37,589)
Other financing sources (uses)										
Transfers from other Funds										4,986
Transfers to other Funds	(110)									(55,150)
Proceeds from Bond Issue										0
Total other financing sources (uses)	(110)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(50,164)
Excess of revenues & other sources over (under) expenditures & other uses	(109)	0	0	0	(4,989)	0	0	0	0	(87,753)
Fund Balance June 30, 1998	109	70	57	8	5,000	20	580	44	0	131,999
Fund Balance June 30, 1999	0	70	57	8	11	20	580	44	0	44,246

COMBINING STATEMENT OF
REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, & CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1999

	Infil/Inflow Sewer	Grand Total Capital Projects
Revenues		
Taxes		0
Charges for Services		0
Licenses & Permits		0
Fines & Forfeitures		0
Other Deptmntal Revenue		0
Revenue from the State		0
Other Intergovmtal Revenue		0
Miscellaneous Revenue		0
Interest on Investments		0
Contributions & Donations		0
Total Revenues	0	0
Expenditures		
General Government		0
Public Safety		0
Education		0
Public Works & Facilities		0
Health & Human Services		0
Culture & Recreation		0
Capital Outlay		0
Debt Principal		0
Debt Interest		0
Temporary Loan Interest		0
Intergovmtal Assessments		0
Insurance & Empl Benefits		0
Total Expenditures	0	0
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	0	0
Other financing sources (uses)		0
Transfers from other Funds		0
Transfers to other Funds		0
Proceeds from Bond Issue		0
Total other financing sources (uses)	0	0
Excess of revenues & other sources over (under) expenditures & other uses	0	0
Fund Balance June 30, 1998	1,839	1,839
Fund Balance June 30, 1999	1,839	1,839

REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, & CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
TRUST FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1999

	Cemetery P C Funds	Library Trust Funds	Other Trust Funds	Stabiliz Fund	Grand Total Trust Funds
Revenues					
Taxes					0
Charges for Services					0
Licenses & Permits					0
Fines & Forfeitures					0
Other Deptmntal Revenue					0
Revenue from the State					0
Other Intergovmtal Revenue					0
Miscellaneous Revenue					0
Interest on Investments	2,926	4,809	7,142	9,506	24,383
Contributions & Donations	1,500	1,200			2,700
Total Revenues	4,426	6,009	7,142	9,506	27,083
Expenditures					
General Government					0
Public Safety					0
Education					0
Public Works & Facilities	5,259				5,259
Health & Human Services			700		700
Culture & Recreation		4,602			4,602
Capital Outlay					0
Debt Principal					0
Debt Interest					0
Temporary Loan Interest					0
Intergovmtal Assessments					0
Insurance & Empl Benefits					0
Total Expenditures	5,259	4,602	700	0	10,561
Excess of revenues over (under) expenditures	(833)	1,407	6,442	9,506	16,522
Other financing sources (uses)					
Transfers from other Funds		110		60,000	60,110
Transfers to other Funds					0
Proceeds from Bond Issue					0
Total other financing sources (uses)	0	110	0	60,000	60,110
Excess of revenues & other sources over (under) expenditures & other uses	(833)	1,517	6,442	69,506	76,632
Fund Balance June 30, 1998	77,543	113,445	162,238	184,832	538,058
Fund Balance June 30, 1999	76,710	114,962	168,680	254,338	614,690

DETAIL REVENUE REPORT- GENERAL FUND
July 1, 1998- June 30, 1999

Taxes		
Personal Property Taxes	336,236	
Real Estate Taxes	2,374,949	
Tax Liens Redeemed	3,795	
Ch 61 & 61A Special Assessments	25	
Motor Vehicle Excise	229,301	
Boat Excise	755	
Farm Animal Excise	4,022	
Classified Forest Lands Excise	0	
Penalty & Int, Prop Taxes	17,698	
Penalty & Int, Excise Taxes	1,759	
Penalty & Int, Tax Liens Redempt	379	
Penalty & Int, Sewer Use Tax	231	
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	17,161	2,986,311
Charges for Services		
Sewer Use	130,182	
Sewer Dumping Fees	0	
Sewer Permanent Priviledge	6,450	
Transfer Station	17,959	
Use of Copy Machine	290	
Use of Fax Machine-Library	261	
Street Lists, Bylaws, Maps	961	
Accident Reports	170	
RMV Non-Renewal Fees	2,420	
Building Inspection Fees	1,813	
Fire Department Inspections	1,460	
Admin Fee-Health/Life Ins	372	
Admin Fee-Police Outside Detail	919	
Board of Appeals Fees	300	
Planning Board Fees	360	
Certificate Filing-Tax Liens	68	
Assessors Filing Fees	0	
Town Hall Rent	180	164,165
Licenses & Permits		
Alcoholic Bev Licenses	1,540	
Other Licenses	900	
Other Misc Permits	120	
F.I.D. & Pistol Permits	1,139	
Building Permits	17,782	
Wiring Permits	4,455	
Gas Permits	753	
Plumbing Permits	3,710	
Disposal & Septic Permits	3,480	
Other Bd of Health Permits	500	34,379

Fines & Forfeitures			
Court Fines	3,415		
Registry Motor Veh- CMVI Fines	16,345		
Non-criminal Dispositions	50		
Library Fines	926		
Dog Fines	675		
False Alarms	0		
By-law Violation Fines	0	21,411	
State Revenue			
Expanded Polling Hours	236		
State Owned Land	24,565		
Abatements- Veterans	2,750		
Abatements- Blind	700		
Abatements- Elderly	8,032		
School Construction Aid	181,855		
Veterans Benefits	0		
Lottery, Beano & Charity	260,037		
Highway Fund- Ch81	62,306		
Other Revenue from State	0		
Sewer Rate Relief	18,033	558,514	
Miscellaneous Revenues & Interest			
MRF Recycling Reimb.	1,032		
Other Misc Revenue	4,693		
Interest on Investments	40,418	46,143	
TOTAL REVENUES			3,810,923
Other Financing Sources			
Trsf from EOCD Fund	50,054		
Trsf from Other Special Revenue Funds	0		
Trsf from Stabilization Fund	0		
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES			50,054

GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION BALANCES

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1999

	ORIGINAL BUDGET	ADJ/TRSFS	SPENT	BALANCE TO CLOSE	BALANCE TO FY 00
MODERATOR SALARY	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00
MODERATOR EXPENSE	80.00		15.00	65.00	0.00
SELECTMEN SALARIES	4113.00		4113.00	0.00	0.00
ADMIN ASST SALARY	33311.00		33311.00	0.00	0.00
SECRETARY SALARY	23590.00		23590.00	0.00	0.00
SELECTMEN EXPENSE	7265.00		7065.63	199.37	0.00
SOUND SYSTEM	1500.00		1500.00	0.00	0.00
FINANCE COMM EXPENSE	315.00		174.28	140.72	0.00
RESERVE FUND	10000.00	-7821.09	0.00	2178.91	0.00
ACCOUNTANT SALARY	15726.00		15726.00	0.00	0.00
ACCOUNTANT EXPENSE	335.00		202.96	132.04	0.00
ASSESSORS SALARIES	4615.00		4615.00	0.00	0.00
ASSESSORS CLERK SALARY	15142.00		15141.84	0.16	0.00
ASSESSORS EXPENSE	6550.00		6498.63	51.37	0.00
PRESERVE ASSESS RECORDS	9000.00		9000.00	0.00	0.00
ASSESSORS DIGITAL MAPS	12350.00		0.00	0.00	12350.00
APPRAISAL NFLD MTN PROJ	0.00	3500.00	0.00	0.00	3500.00
TREASURER SALARY	8316.00		8316.00	0.00	0.00
TREASURER EXPENSE	3500.00		2738.50	761.50	0.00
TAX COLLECTOR SALARY	5830.00		5829.96	0.04	0.00
TAX COLLECTOR EXPENSE	6600.00		4072.22	2527.78	0.00
TOWN LEGAL COUNSEL	15000.00	658.40	15658.40	0.00	0.00
COMPUTER SUPPLY/SERVICE	4650.00		2192.52	2457.48	0.00
UPGRADE COMPUTERS	2050.01		2050.01	0.00	0.00
COMPUTERS 5/98	17015.00		13062.94	0.00	3952.06
TAX TITLE FORECLOSURE	2300.00		90.34	2209.66	0.00
COPY MACHINE SUPPL/SERVICE	2000.00		1057.72	942.28	0.00
TOWN CLERK SALARY	5363.00		5362.92	0.08	0.00
TOWN CLERK EXPENSE	675.00		595.83	79.17	0.00
TOWN CLERK RECORDS	2005.00		1251.00	0.00	754.00
ELECTIONS & REGISTRATIONS	5000.00		4636.62	363.38	0.00
CONSERV COMMISSION	620.00		140.27	479.73	0.00
PLANNING BOARD	1945.00		146.85	1798.15	0.00
ZONING/APPEALS BOARD	275.00	100.00	315.31	59.69	0.00
LAND DAMAGES	1.00		0.00	1.00	0.00
MASS A.P.R. PROGRAM	15000.00		0.00	0.00	15000.00
BOUNDARY LINE SURVEY	1000.00		600.00	400.00	0.00
TOWN HALL CUSTODIAN	6941.00		6381.30	559.70	0.00
TOWN HALL MAINT	18600.00		12631.64	5968.36	0.00
TOWN HALL WIRING	4267.72		766.71	0.00	3501.01
TOWN HALL SEAL WALL	4800.00		0.00	0.00	4800.00
TOWN HALL ROOF STM 6/97	2000.00		0.00	0.00	2000.00
TOWN HALL CODE VIOLATIONS	2050.00		875.32	0.00	1174.68
TOWN HALL LTG FIXTURES	5000.00		4595.88	0.00	404.12
TOWN REPORTS	1600.00		1215.00	385.00	0.00
TOWN CLOCK	150.00		150.00	0.00	0.00
REPAIR TOWN CLOCK	500.00		0.00	0.00	500.00
POLICE WAGES & SALARIES	100932.00		98043.37	2888.63	0.00
POLICE OPER EXPENSE	17475.00		17048.54	426.46	0.00
POLICE CRUISER	21000.00		21000.00	0.00	0.00
POLICE STATION	105000.00		0.00	0.00	105000.00
FIRE DEPT SALARIES	2733.00		2733.00	0.00	0.00
FIRE DEPT WAGES	14951.00		14779.29	171.71	0.00
FIRE DEPT OPER EXP	8250.00		8210.22	39.78	0.00
HOSE & EQUIPMENT	7000.00		6781.25	218.75	0.00
INSPECTION FEES	1400.00	588.00	1910.00	78.00	0.00
HYDRANTS	3300.00		3300.00	0.00	0.00
MAINT FIRE STATION	7500.00		7494.47	5.53	0.00
FIRE PONDS/WATERHOLES	2000.00		1975.00	25.00	0.00
REPAIR/PAINT FIRE STATION	7500.00		0.00	0.00	7500.00

GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION BALANCES

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1999

	ORIGINAL BUDGET	ADJ/TRSFS	SPENT	BALANCE TO CLOSE	BALANCE TO FY 00
EMT WAGES & SALARIES	4584.00		4136.00	448.00	0.00
EMT EXPENSES	2840.00		2523.03	316.97	0.00
EMT TRAINING	1490.00		0.00	0.00	1490.00
EMT BILL-PR YR	35.00		35.00	0.00	0.00
EMT RADIO	317.00		0.00	0.00	317.00
EMT STRETCHER	2000.00		0.00	0.00	2000.00
EMT RADIO REPEATER	1500.00		0.00	0.00	1500.00
BLDG INSPECTOR SALARY	10789.00		10789.00	0.00	0.00
BLDG INSPECTOR EXPENSE	1385.00		987.20	397.80	0.00
WIRE INSPECTOR PROGRAM	7724.00		7107.41	616.59	0.00
CIVIL DEFENSE	500.00		0.00	500.00	0.00
DOG OFFICER SALARY	2221.00		2220.96	0.04	0.00
DOG OFFICER EXPENSE	1450.00		606.84	843.16	0.00
TREE DEPT WAGES & EXPENSE	5000.00		3580.00	1420.00	0.00
CONSTABLES WAGES	482.00	36.00	518.00	0.00	0.00
CONSTABLES EXPENSE	30.00		0.00	30.00	0.00
FENCE VIEWERS, ETC	1.00		0.00	1.00	0.00
HEPATITIS SHOTS	1881.50		0.00	0.00	1881.50
RABIES SHOTS	595.00		0.00	0.00	595.00
ELEM CMPTR SFTWRE/SUPPORT	141.53		0.00	0.00	141.53
ELEM SCH MAINT	0.00	850.00	664.96	185.04	0.00
ELEM SCH WATER HEATERS	1250.00		938.60	311.40	0.00
ELEM SCH CARPET	1500.00		1193.77	306.23	0.00
ELEM SCH TILES	0.00	4500.00	4128.00	0.00	372.00
ELEM SCH CAPITAL REPAIRS	0.00	5000.00	273.57	0.00	4726.43
PIONEER VALLEY REG SCH	1689550.00		1689549.71	0.29	0.00
PVRS CAPITAL ASSESSMENT	26120.64		26120.64	0.00	0.00
PVRS-TEACHERS SAL DEFERRAL	4536.47		4536.47	0.00	0.00
PVRS BLDG PROJ ASSESSMENT	0.00	2102.52	2102.52	0.00	0.00
FRKLN CTY TECH SCHOOL	88655.00		88655.00	0.00	0.00
HIGHWAY SUPT EXPENSE	6480.00		6135.39	344.61	0.00
HIGHWAY DEPT WAGES	166634.00		164689.21	1944.79	0.00
HWY, BRIDGES & RAILS	80000.00		61240.05	18759.95	0.00
OILING & STONING	60000.00		60000.00	0.00	0.00
HIGHWAY TOOLS	1000.00		1000.00	0.00	0.00
SIDEWALKS	568.95		0.00	0.00	568.95
REPAIR BRIDGES	3615.36		0.00	0.00	3615.36
OLD WENDELL ROAD	18500.00		1143.61	0.00	17356.39
SNOW REMOVAL EXPENSE	51800.00		51800.00	0.00	0.00
STREET LIGHTS	13150.00		11288.38	1861.62	0.00
MACHINERY MAINTENANCE	62000.00		57409.62	4590.38	0.00
MAINT HIGHWAY GARAGE	4000.00	238.69	4197.63	41.06	0.00
HWY BOUNDS,SURVEY,LISTS	1.00		0.00	1.00	0.00
PURCH EQUIP-HWY DEPT	10811.00		0.00	0.00	10811.00
SURVEY BOUNDS TOWN WAYS	1500.00		0.00	0.00	1500.00
HWY SANDER	14500.00		10543.00	0.00	3957.00
SOLID WASTE DISTRICT	4900.00		4900.00	0.00	0.00
WASTE DISPOSAL	96505.00		83113.08	13391.92	0.00
SEWER COMM SALARIES	1039.00		1039.00	0.00	0.00
SEWER DEPT WAGES	46797.00		43305.20	3491.80	0.00
SEWER DEPT COLLECTOR	512.00		512.00	0.00	0.00
SEWER COMM EXPENSE	67.00		0.00	67.00	0.00
OP & MAINT SEWER PLANT	58071.00		56027.82	2043.18	0.00
SEWER-DICKINSON LIBRARY	2500.00		0.00	0.00	2500.00
SEWER SLUDGE PUMP	2617.00		0.00	0.00	2617.00
WWTP SAFETY/LAB EQUIP	937.15		0.00	0.00	937.15
WWTP COMPOSITE SAMPLERS	5000.00		5000.00	0.00	0.00
CEMETERY WAGES & EXP	1200.00		1191.33	8.67	0.00
MAJOR IMPROV-CEMETERIES	418.99		0.00	0.00	418.99

GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION BALANCES

FOR THE YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1999

	ORIGINAL BUDGET	ADJ/TRSFS	SPENT	BALANCE TO CLOSE	BALANCE TO FY 00
BD OF HEALTH SALARIES	1730.00		1668.83	61.17	0.00
SECRETARY-BD OF HEALTH	650.00		0.00	650.00	0.00
SEPTIC SYSTEM INSP FEES	2000.00		1225.00	775.00	0.00
BD OF HEALTH EXPENSE	2515.00	1200.00	3587.33	127.67	0.00
SHARED HEALTH AGENT	6450.00		6450.00	0.00	0.00
ANIMAL INSPECTOR	1500.00		1456.24	43.76	0.00
COUNCIL ON AGING	9286.00		9283.31	2.69	0.00
SOLDIERS RELIEF	2500.00		0.00	2500.00	0.00
DICKINSON LIBRARY WAGES	49661.00		47929.48	1731.52	0.00
DICKINSON LIBRARY EXP	18585.00	8084.00	24393.04	2275.96	0.00
NFLD FARMS LIBRARY	450.00		450.00	0.00	0.00
LIB COMPUTERIZATION	546.02		0.00	546.02	0.00
LIB ADDIT DESIGN	900.00		0.00	900.00	0.00
LIB CHIMNEY REPAIR	6225.00		6225.00	0.00	0.00
LIB MOLD PREVENTION	0.00	11000.00	8825.66	0.00	2174.34
RECREATION COMM	7000.00		7000.00	0.00	0.00
MAINT ATHLETIC FIELD	2000.00		252.00	148.00	1600.00
HISTORICAL SOC BLDG	400.00		370.00	30.00	0.00
HIST SOC BLDG REPAIRS	3034.98		2790.00	0.00	244.98
HISTORICAL COMMISSION	200.00		0.00	200.00	0.00
MEMORIAL DAY	1200.00		768.55	431.45	0.00
ALEXANDER HALL	340.00		240.00	100.00	0.00
MATURING DEBT- PRIN	222703.02		222703.02	0.00	0.00
INT ON LONG TERM DEBT	155982.98		155982.98	0.00	0.00
INT ON SHORT TERM DEBT	3000.00		0.00	3000.00	0.00
STATE ASSESSMENTS	3097.00		3377.00	-280.00	0.00
FRCOG ASSESSMENT	19976.23		19976.23	0.00	0.00
VETERANS DISTRICT	5113.00		5113.00	0.00	0.00
COUNTY RETIREMENT	46010.00		46010.00	0.00	0.00
WORKERS COMP INSURANCE	8000.00		4622.90	3377.10	0.00
UNEMPLOYMENT	1500.00		576.85	923.15	0.00
HEALTH INSURANCE	62200.00		56171.06	6028.94	0.00
LIFE INSURANCE	700.00		594.00	106.00	0.00
MEDICARE/FICA	11000.00		9947.00	1053.00	0.00
OTHER INSURANCE	27000.00		25316.00	1684.00	0.00
TRSF TO STABILIZATION	60000.00		60000.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	3903144.55	30036.52	3607468.22	103952.36	221760.49

DETAILED EXPENDITURES (SELECTED ACCOUNTS)

		TOTAL SPENT
SELECTMEN EXPENSE		
Telephone	1645.77	
Meetings & Seminars	686.00	
Advertising	445.89	
Postage	688.65	
Other Purchased Services	390.98	
Office Supplies	691.47	
Law Books	1161.31	
Other Supplies	546.96	
Mileage	162.60	
Dues & Memberships	546.00	
Bonds	100.00	7065.63
FINANCE COMMITTEE EXPENSE		
Other Purchased Services	0.00	
Other Supplies	59.28	
Dues & Memberships	115.00	174.28
ACCOUNTANT EXPENSE		
Telephone	16.29	
Meetings & Seminars	0.00	
Postage	24.61	
Other Purchased Services	79.82	
Office Supplies	37.24	
Dues & Memberships	45.00	202.96
ASSESSORS EXPENSE		
Telephone	8.02	
Bookbinding	259.12	
Mapping	1145.00	
Meetings & Seminars	1249.25	
Postage	293.68	
Other Purchased Services	526.00	
Registry of Deeds	287.00	
Computer support agreement	1500.00	
Office Supplies	692.06	
Other Supplies	0.00	
Mileage	438.50	
Dues & Memberships	100.00	6498.63
TREASURERS EXPENSE		
Telephone	21.11	
Postage	793.07	
Other Purchased Services	0.00	
Bank Service Charges	694.27	
Office Supplies	950.05	
Mileage	0.00	
Dues & Memberships	35.00	
Bonds	245.00	
Other Charges	0.00	2738.50

TAX COLLECTORS EXPENSE		
Telephone	5.86	
Data Processing	0.00	
Meetings & Seminars	0.00	
Postage	2345.83	
Other Purchased Services	339.84	
Office Supplies	1039.69	
Dues & Memberships	35.00	
Bonds	306.00	4072.22
TOWN CLERK EXPENSE		
Telephone	10.52	
Postage	82.30	
Other Purchased Services	179.00	
Office Supplies	174.01	
Other Supplies	0.00	
Dues & Memberships	50.00	
Bonds	100.00	595.83
CONSERVATION COMMISSION		
Telephone	0.00	
Meetings & Seminars	0.00	
Advertising	50.27	
Postage	0.00	
Other Purchased Services	0.00	
Other Supplies	0.00	
Mileage	0.00	
Dues & Memberships	90.00	140.27
PLANNING BOARD		
Meetings & Seminars	83.24	
Advertising	40.40	
Postage	9.21	
Office Supplies	14.00	146.85
ZONING/APPEALS BOARD		
Telephone	0.10	
Advertising	232.30	
Postage	82.91	
Other Purchased Services	0.00	
Office Supplies	0.00	315.31
TOWN HALL MAINTENANCE		
Wages	126.00	
Electricity	2701.18	
Water	303.92	
Repairs & Maintenance	722.88	
Rubbish Removal	1661.77	
Other Purchased Services	515.00	
Fuel Oil	4295.08	
Propane Gas	682.50	
Supplies	1623.31	12631.64

POLICE OPERATING EXPENSE		
Telephone	491.93	
Cruiser Repair & Maint	2680.66	
Professional Training	619.00	
Meetings & Seminars	443.00	
Postage	307.92	
Other Purchased Services	741.16	
Gasoline	4109.45	
Office Supplies	521.93	
Uniforms & Equipment	4143.75	
Other Supplies	2514.74	
Mileage	0.00	
Dues & Memberships	475.00	17048.54
FIRE DEPT OPERATING EXPENSE		
Telephone	544.30	
Other Purchased Services	2333.87	
Gasoline	216.21	
Diesel	459.09	
Other Supplies	4431.75	
Dues & Memberships	225.00	
Other Charges	0.00	8210.22
MAINT FIRE STATION		
Electricity	2868.45	
Water	317.54	
Other Purchased Services	944.00	
Fuel Oil	2484.86	
Other Supplies	879.62	7494.47
EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS		
Vehicle Repair & Maintenance	305.42	
Professional Training	465.00	
Other Purchased Services	350.82	
Gasoline	73.17	
Office Supplies	33.86	
Medical Supplies	716.54	
Other Supplies	88.22	
Dues & Memberships	90.00	
Other Charges	400.00	2523.03
BUILDING INSPECTOR EXPENSE		
Telephone	37.90	
Meetings & Seminars	0.00	
Postage	45.96	
Other Purchased Services	0.00	
Office Supplies	0.00	
Mileage	903.34	
Dues & Memberships	0.00	987.20

HIGHWAY SUPT EXPENSE		
Telephone	341.10	
Postage	33.15	
Other Purchased Services	616.44	
Uniform Service	3240.31	
FRCOG Purchasing Program	1780.00	
Other Supplies	124.39	6135.39
HIGHWAYS, BRIDGES & RAILS		
Electricity	670.77	
Other Purchased Services	21281.85	
Materials & Supplies	39287.43	61240.05
MACHINERY MAINTENANCE		
Purchased Services	16969.51	
Gasoline	73.43	
Diesel	9760.98	
Parts & Supplies	30605.70	57409.62
MAINT HIGHWAY GARAGE		
Electricity	2065.47	
Repairs & Maintenance	337.00	
Other Purchased Services	180.00	
Fuel Oil	519.71	
Supplies	1095.45	4197.63
WASTE DISPOSAL		
Wages	14901.34	
Electricity	1113.07	
Hazardous Waste Collection	839.24	
Tipping Fees	37776.55	
Trucking Fees	26158.85	
Other Purchased Services	1905.00	
Supplies	419.03	83113.08
OP & MAINT SEWER PLANT		
Electricity	8782.26	
Water	461.45	
Telephone	653.48	
Repairs & Maintenance	1461.49	
Professional & Techical	105.00	
Lab Testing	2500.00	
Meetings & Seminars	20.00	
Sludge Removal	12039.65	
Collection System O&M	1212.49	
Other Purchased Services	744.23	
Supplies	26375.79	
Chemicals	1097.34	
Mileage	323.64	
Other Charges	251.00	56027.82

BOARD OF HEALTH EXPENSE		
Telephone	102.62	
Advertising & Postage	73.71	
Other Purchased Services	0.00	
Plumbing Inspection Fees	3341.00	
Office Supplies	45.00	
Other Supplies	0.00	
Dues & Memberships	25.00	3587.33
COUNCIL ON AGING		
Meetings & Seminars	161.32	
Postage	86.85	
Purchased Services	145.44	
Director Salary	8456.00	
Supplies	368.70	
Dues & Memberships	65.00	
Other Charges	0.00	9283.31
DICKINSON LIBRARY EXPENSE		
Electricity	2647.44	
Water	256.01	
Telephone	904.17	
Repairs & Maintenance	6929.51	
Postage	215.44	
Other Purchased Services	48.48	
Fuel Oil	2301.80	
Office Supplies	1287.11	
Custodial Supplies	180.44	
Books	8571.38	
Newspapers & Periodicals	337.80	
Audio Tapes	350.65	
Videos	282.31	
Other Supplies	0.00	
Mileage	80.50	
Other Charges	0.00	24393.04
RECREATION COMMISSION		
Wages	6270.00	
Other Purchased Services	730.00	
Supplies	0.00	7000.00
RECREATION REVOLVING FUND		
Karate	8658.50	
Swimming	55.00	
Soccer	1363.09	
Basketball	727.50	
Aerobics	1800.00	
Playground	1369.17	
Skiing	9063.00	
Inter-program Expenses	688.23	23724.49

Respectfully Submitted,
Deborah M. Mero
Town Accountant

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

In reviewing my weekly reports to the select board for 1999 it seems that procurement was the theme for the year. In 1999, using the state's Uniform Procurement Act, I drafted four requests for proposals (RFP's) and developed several invitations for bids (IFB's). The first RFP developed was to allow a telecommunications facility to locate on town-owned land at the transfer station. While only one response was received, the offer was significantly higher than that of facilities in surrounding towns. If approved and constructed the tower will provide the town with $1,500 in rent per month plus $100 per month per co-locator with an escalation of 15% every five years. The next RFP came at the request of the Finance Committee and was for a wage and classification study for town employees. When complete, this study will provide new or upgraded job descriptions as well as a salary range and grade system for most positions. This will allow supervisors and the finance committee to make an informed judgment when an employee asks that all-important question, "Can I have a raise"?

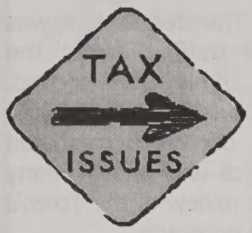
Design services were the theme for a third request for proposals. Leon Pernice and Associates of West Springfield was recently awarded the contract to assess current and future space needs of departments presently housed at the Town Hall. In addition, Mr. Pernice will develop options for locating an elevator at the Town Hall to make the building accessible to all residents. It is the intent of the Selectboard to work with the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority to apply for a Community Development Block Grant that will provide 100% funding for the handicapped accessibility portion of the project. The final RFP developed was to solicit a nonprofit educational and historical organization to purchase the former Pine Street School building. It is the hope of the Selectboard that the Northfield Historical Society will submit a proposal to purchase the building to use as a museum.

In addition to the requests for proposals the Selectboard solicited bids for a variety of projects. Probably the most significant was a bid to install new energy efficient windows at the elementary school. There was no response to the first round of bids, but a second round produced a low bidder in Greenfield Glass Co. of Greenfield. The company will provide more than 100 heavy-duty commercial windows that will improve energy use at the school while allowing staff to open windows without risk of injury. Other purchases this year included physical improvements to the Pine Street School building, a furnace for the highway garage, a copier for the Town Hall, a snow plow for the highway department and minor repairs to the elementary school.

In addition to the above the Selectboard hired Cherrie Smart to replace Shirley Thompson as Town Secretary and Bob Beck to serve as the first ever Town Maintenance Person. The board applied for and received an $88,000 grant from the Department of Education's Foundation Reserve Program, received a grant from the Department of Environmental Management to develop plans for the town common, dealt with the aftermath of Tropical Storm Floyd and undertook several road and bridge projects. All in all it was a busy year. I thank the Selectboard and the town for your support of this position and the town employees for making the job so satisfying and diverse.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Draves
Administrative Assistant



BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Year ending December 31, 1999

TAX RATE RECAPITULATION

Town Appropriations:

Raised by taxation	$4,202,872.24
Education offset items	2,878.00
Veterans Dist. Services	5,356.00
State & County Charge	3,022.00
County Retir. Services	60,764.00
Current year overlay	30,750.68
Total amount to be raised:	$4,305,642.92

Estimated Receipts & Available Funds:

Cherry Sheet receipts	$548,623.00
Local Estimated receipt	527,700.00
Free Cash	250,000.00
Revolving Funds	30,036.52
Other Available Funds	101,100.00
Total Estimated Receipts:	$1,457,459.52

Total Amount to be Raised by Taxation:

CLASS	VALUATION	% OF LEVY
Residential	132,772,480	67.4075
Commercial	8,976,247	4.5572
Industrial	8,167,400	4.1465
Personal	47,053,680	23.8888
Total Value	196,969,807	

The FY2000 tax rate of $14.46 was approved by the Department of Revenue on November 26, 1999. Real Estate and Personal Property tax bills were mailed on December 10, 1999.

PROPERTY ABATEMENTS/EXEMPTIONS GRANTED FISCAL YEAR 2000

n/a	Real & Personal Prop.	n/a
16	Elderly exemptions	7,697.68
17	Veterans exemptions	5,300.00
5	Blind exemptions	2,500.00
7	Surviving spouse & elderly	1,288.28
45	Total	$16,785.96

MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 1999

1999 Levy

Number of Motor Vehicles	3364
Total value	$10,650,642.00
Total tax	$227,232.92
Number of abatements granted	113
Total taxes abated	$5,754.36
Number of Boats	26
Total value	$72,900.00
Total tax	$729.00
Number of abatements granted	0
Total taxes abated	0

1998 Levy

Number of Motor Vehicles	127
Total value	$713,100.00
Total tax	$5,524.72
Number of abatements granted	17
Total taxes abated	$946.66

The Assessors office has been busy during the year with many projects and moving. Due to deregulation of the utilities, Northfield and Erving worked together to bring the valuation of the Mt. Project up to date which resulted in

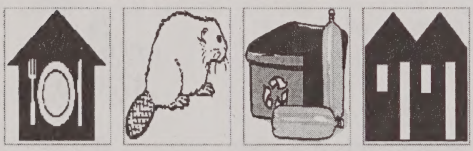
a reduced tax rate for FY2000. There were more building permits issued in 1999 for construction of new homes than ever before in one year. The Assessors maps are in the process of being digitized and will also include the addition of street numbers. Due to basement flooding last spring and lack of space, the Assessors office has moved to the main floor.

We would like to express our appreciation to all citizens and town officials for their co-operation and courtesy extended to the Board during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Linwood Wallace, Chairman
Ronald Wickey
Doris Balk
Carol Holden, Clerk

BOARD OF HEALTH



The Board of Health has had a busy year with many changes.

Phil Baker became our newest member, replacing Mark Trumbell. We are very grateful to Mark for the many years he served the Town through the Board of Health. Phil brings hands-on experience in recycling issues via his "regular" job.

On the recycling front, we had a Public Meeting in November to discuss the Transfer Station and the possibility of instituting a Pay-As-You-Throw Program. The meeting provided us with a lot of constructive ideas and issues to address. Education of the public about recycling and the Transfer Station was number one, with traffic flow at the Transfer Station coming in second. These issues will be addressed in 2000. We lost the use of the Bernardston Dump in 1999 which was one of many factors causing the review of the Town's recycling and trash programs.

The Board issued 30 Disposal Works Permits for Septic Systems, 14 of which were for new construction. There were also 12 Installers Permits, 11 Food Permits, 8 Camp Permits and 5 Haulers Permits issued.

The Beaver situation has been on the Board's agenda several times this past year. We have worked with the Board of Selectmen, the Conservation Commission and the State division of Fisheries and Wildlife to assist people with their problems and solutions. It will most likely be an on-going issue.

We are in a "new" office thanks to the reshuffling of Town Hall Office space in the aftermath of Hurricane Floyd's flooding of the basement. The former Police Department is now our new home.

Charles Kaniecki left the Eastern Franklin County Health District after eight years. This was a tremendous change for us and our new part-time Health Agent, David Zarozinski, has very big shoes to fill. We're happy to say that he is doing very well so far. Luckily, Charlie Kaniecki is still available to us in his new position as the Western Massachusetts Health Agent for the State.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Bridges-Gray, Chair
David Gibson
Karen Arsenault
David Balk
Phil Baker

BUILDING COMMISSIONER

Building permits, fees & values, were at an all time high for 1999.

The total value for building permits was:

$19,331,666

The total fees collected for building permits were:

$51,233

Total number of new homes permitted was:	25
Total number of permits issued was:	127

Respectfully submitted,

James Hawkins
Building Commissioner/Zoning Officer

CABLE TV ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Cable TV Advisory Committee has had a quiet year. While many members have been busy with the Cable TV Renegotiating Committee, few issues have needed addressing during 1999.

It is the volunteers of Northfield Community Television who routinely rush from one meeting to another, camcorder and tripod in hand, to try and cover as much of the community as possible who deserve recognition. Additional volunteers are desperately needed.

1999 purchases from the revolving fund (which is funded from franchise fees of approx. $430 per year paid by MediaOne) include microphones, video tape, misc. cables and supplies.

Our revolving fund began fiscal year 1999 with a balance of $334.57 on 7/1/1998. Revenue for that fiscal year consisted of the annual franchise fee of $430.50, and expenses were $119.25. This left a balance of $645.82 as of 6/30/99. There were no transactions in the first half of fiscal year 2000.

Residents interested in working with video production for various municipal meetings or public access programs at Nfld Community TV should contact Judy Radebaugh, Station Manager, or Eileen Dowd, Program Coordinator, through the town hall. Training is provided free of charge.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Brault, Chairperson

CABLE TV RENEGOTIATING COMMITTEE

The Cable TV Renegotiating Committee spent 1999 gathering information from the general public and interested groups within Bernardston and Northfield as the first phase of Cable TV contract renewal negotiations with MediaOne, the town's only cable provider. This phase is formally known as the ascertainment process.

Over the next year, the committee will complete this process, which includes a formal public hearing. We will then prepare a Request for Proposal to MediaOne, and formal negotiations will begin once the towns receive their response.

Residents with input regarding this process should address all statements in writing to the Cable TV Renegotiating Committee in care of their respective Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Brain Brault, Chairperson

CEMETERY COMMISSIONER

With the arrival of spring, all cemeteries were cleaned. Loaming and reseeding, where necessary, was done.

Stones were straightened and re-grouted as needed. Also, brush hanging over the fence lines was cut and chipped.

Richard and Roger Bassett and Charles Hewitt did the mowing and trimming. I would like to thank them for their efforts to keep the cemeteries so well maintained.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. "Mike" Gibson
Cemetery Commissioner

COUNCIL ON AGING

On April 1973 the Northfield Council on Aging and meal site was established. Programs and attendance have been expanding since.

We have a busy center with volunteers from AARP giving programs and tax return help. Foot clinics are done on a regular basis as well as blood pressure and yearly flu clinic. These are open to all residents. Tai Chi is a valuable exercise program that helps limber muscles & joints with little exertion. Bingo, cards, video's, piano, keyboard, potluck luncheons, picnics & dinners out are other fun things that we do. The PVRS school band & chorus, the elementary school students and the church as a group, keep us involved in the community.

The age of seniors has been lowered to 55 years of age. There is a Franklin County Home Care newspaper, called the Good Life, that is free to all. There is information about area senior centers as well as much other information.

We are educated by attorneys that speak on various subjects of interest to seniors, medical information about hypertension, hearing helps, insurance benefits, state District Attorney's office about scams, identity fraud, protective service, police updates, crime watch information, Y2K

banking & utility concerns, housing helps and many other needs of elders.

Each year there is a legislative breakfast thanking, and describing use of state grant money's received. This is well attended.

Joanne is on the Mass. Council on Aging Board keeping up to date on legislative happenings in the state, and Western Mass. Council on Aging which involves local areas of concern. The membership goal is to be responsive in meeting the needs of our seniors, by continuing strong commitment to collecting and disseminating information pertinent to elders, Council on Aging and providers.

Trips with tours are looked forward to and are organized by a volunteer.

The senior van runs trips to meal sites, Greenfield and other areas 4 times a week. 2,563 trips were made this year. Through grants, Franklin Regional Transit has supplied the senior center with another new chair lift van.

The Outreach Worker, Mary Miller, is available for help with senior issues, and Marian Holbrook is able to help residents with insurance questions. Call the Center to contact either lady.

6,498 meals were sent to area homes for house bound elders in both Northfield and Bernardston and 2,124 people were served for congregate meals. Programs such as these help people eat nutritious meals, get shopping done & live more productive lives at home. With nursing home costs at $190 for a private room, or $117 for a semi-private room per day, it does not take long to deplete savings. Tax dollars are then used to care for people. We all know that people prefer to remain in their own homes and Councils on Aging & Senior Centers make that possible for many. All the volunteers make the whole program work. There can never be enough THANK YOU'S to them.

The Council has received $5,020 in grant money this year. This is used for programs for the seniors and keeps us functioning.

The Senior Center meal site with programs is open on Monday, Tuesday & Thursday on a weekly basis. We meet in the town hall and the phone number is 413-498-2186. All seniors are welcome. A call a day in advance is necessary to reserve a meal or a van ride. Programs are at 11:00 am and meals are served at noon.

Thank you to the Selectboard & the Council on Aging board for your support.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Balzarini, Director
Martha Jane Shaw, Meal Site Manager
Doris Arsenault, Senior Aide
Mary Miller, Outreach Worker
Marian Holbrook, Shine Representative

Council on Aging Board:
Mary Jane Porter, Chairman
Helen Greene, Secretary
Raymond Parenteau, Treasurer
Cora Mae Rusk
Shirley Nelson
Gerald Tessier
Eileen Gorzocoski
Mary Ann Wozniak

CULTURAL COUNCIL

Each year, the Northfield Cultural Council, part of the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC), provides a means for stimulating the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences in our community. The Council is responsible for

allocating resources received from the MCC to applicants, using the following criteria in evaluating grant proposals:

- Benefit to the community as a whole
- Access
- Educational Opportunities
- Diversity of the Arts

Along with criteria defined by the MCC, other specific points considered by this Council includes the quality and completeness of the project description; previous accomplishments of the applicant or group; demonstrated financial need; and the potential interest of the community in the project.

MCC Grant Applications, made available in September, are distributed to local libraries, schools, and Town Halls. Local Cultural Councils receive these applications by a mid-October deadline and meet to review the applications and make recommendations to the MCC for that year's funding.

The amount of $3,300.00 will be coming from the MCC for this year's Council's funding. In addition, $200.00 designated for the Art Bank in 1999 was not used and was returned to the Council. Therefore, the available total for disbursal will be $3,500.00

At its meeting October 26, 1999, the Council voted to approve the following 10 projects for 2000:

1. Nfld Elementary School/ Symphony Hall, production of "Tom Sawyer" (Pass Grant)	$500.00
2. Ferne Bork & Bruce Kahn Musical performance at Great Northfield Barbecue	$300.00
3. Aubrey Waynelovich/ King Philip Dixieland Band at Great Northfield Barbecue	$400.00
4. Nfld Elementary School Altiplano all-school concert	$600.00
5. Shea Community Theater Performance for Young People	$250.00
6. S. Christopher Worth Guitar & vocal music for kids, at Dickinson Memorial Library	$350.00
7. Nfld Council on Aging Musical program, "Glenshane"	$330.00
8. John F. Foster/Natural History Hikes in Northfield	$400.00
9. Pioneer Valley Reg. School/ Jim Vetter, Improving Conflict Resolution	$311.60
10. Ashfield Community Theater Towards Play Production	$50.00
TOTAL:	**$3,491.60**

Performers who received approval will be asked to notify the Council of when their performance will take place. This request will be made in the first round of approval letters.

Periodically, the Northfield Cultural Council holds a community meeting in order to gather input toward our goals, to gauge the success of funded programs, and to provide program information to prospective applicants. The meeting is advertised in local newspapers and posting throughout town.

Members of the Nfld Cultural Council are appointed by the Selectboard, and up to 22 members may serve at one time. Although the community input meeting also provides a good opportunity for new and prospective Council members to discover what we're all about, please

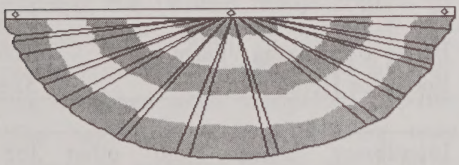
don't hesitate to contact any of the Council's members, or the Selectboard, if you are interested in serving on the Council.

At the end of 1999, the Council bid a reluctant and fond goodbye to Jeanne Sisson, who served the maximum of two consecutive three-year terms, including the last two years as Chairperson. We will miss Jeanne's expertise, wit and dedication to both the Council and to the community. Many thanks, Jeanne!

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Harlow, Chairperson
Judy Clark
Sharon Miller
Shauna Tillson-Griffin
Jack Nelson
Chris Harris
Steve Hussey

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS SERVICES CENTRAL FRANKLIN COUNTY DISTRICT



Dear Veterans' and Citizens:

We have much to be grateful for this year. The Massachusetts Veterans Agents Association has been working with our State Legislatures since last Memorial Day on many veterans' bills and I have listed below many of their accomplishments.

A. Real Estate Tax Exemptions: Clause 22: $250.00 per year

B. Tax Free Military Pensions: **Ended Mass. being the only state to tax military pensions.**

C. Retirement Buy Back: Government employees can buy up to 4 years toward retirement for time spent in military services.

D. Annuities: Established an annual annuity of $1,500 to Fathers & Mothers and Spouses of servicemen and women killed in action or who died of injuries or disease sustained in combat and to all 100% service connected disabled veterans.

E. American Flags: Cities and Towns will be reimbursed 75% of the cost of the American flags used to decorate veterans' graves each Memorial Day.

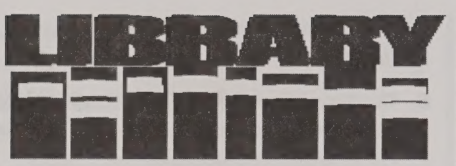
I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the Western Franklin Veterans Services Center: Buckland, Charlemont, Colrain, Conway, Hawley, Heath, Monroe, Plainfield, & Shelburne for joining the C.F.C. Veterans' District and I look forward to working with the Towns and their veterans'. I will be holding office hours every Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Shelburne Town Hall in the Selectperson meeting room. I will also be holding office hours in the Orange town hall every Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

I am still formulating plans with the Farren Care Center and the Northampton VA Medical Center to combine services for veterans and their families to receive clinical care at the Community Health Center.

If we can be of service, please visit or call my office at 413-863-3205

Respectfully Submitted,

Leo J. Parent, Jr.
Director Veterans' Services



Dickinson Memorial Library Librarian's Report

At the end of a decade, century, millennium it seems to be mandatory to look back and reflect on highs and lows, make top ten lists, and acknowledge people who have made a difference.

In reviewing my past two decades at Dickinson Memorial Library the highs really enhanced our service to the public. So, in no top ten order, here are some of the highs - the children's holiday fairs, the audio collection, the fax machine, moving the children's room to the auditorium, internet connections, computerized circulation system, air conditioning, staff computers and (my personal favorite) the Director's desk.

The lows were two mold infestations, ten years apart. We lost some books and some time open, but the Town proved again and again that it is very supportive of the Library.

People who made a difference to me and to the Library include Trustees Dick Giles, Paul Mayberry and Dorothy Hammond - all of whom encouraged my efforts in the early years. Jon McGowan, who has been the one constant on the Board of Trustees for all my years in Northfield. Sharon Miller, assistant par extraordinaire, and Kelly Jean Brassor, who grew up in the Library, were always supportive, but more importantly, comfortable enough to offer advice and give honest opinions when asked.

Friends of the Library and volunteers not only supplement the staff and budget, but have shared in all the joys and tribulations of the past two decades. I would like to take this final opportunity to thank all the wonderful people on the Highway crew, the Police Department, the Fire Department, the Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen, Administrative Assistant, the current Board of Trustees and all our patrons for making the Library the warm and welcoming place it is. Thanks for the memories.

Statistics for 1999

Total Circulation	$26,976

Attendance:		**New People:**	
Adult	6566	Adult	128
Juvenile	2500	Juvenile	52
Total:	9066	Total:	170

Out of Town Attendance	1065
Out of State Attendance	673
Books to Squakeag Village	326
Books for Home Delivery	336

Interlibrary Loans from other libraries	368
Interlibrary Loans to other libraries	80

Volunteers	17	Volunteer hours	446

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Mennard
Library Director

Dickinson Memorial Library Trustees Report

We have now entered our second century of service to the town. We have also entered the age of the computer for sure - as circulation has now been automated and patrons are now required to present their encoded library cards when borrowing books. We hope that this automation allows us to increase our level of service to the community. We must thank the staff and many volunteers who made possible this great leap into the technology of the future.

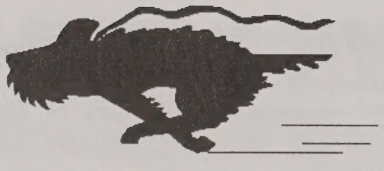
Much of this past year has also been spent overseeing the installation of climate control equipment and repairing the damage done from the mold infestation of 1998. As we attempt to maintain a safe environment - for books and humans alike - within our historic building, the Trustees remain grateful for the continued support of the Town. Our recovery from the devastation of last year has even had some unexpected benefits. The hardwood floors that were once covered by carpeting turned out to be in better shape than we had hoped. After being refinished, they now gleam. Even more of a surprise was the once elegant, but still beautiful, tiled entryway that was exposed when the mold-saturated carpeting was removed there.

While much has changed within the building, even more remains to be done. The Trustees are still committed as well as legally obligated to seek affordable and appropriate solutions to the issue of handicap accessibility, be that through renovations or expansion or a combination of both. The DML Building and Renovation Fund, was established to oversee much-needed fundraising. During 1999 several successful events, including a silent auction at the Great Northfield Barbecue, were held. While it is only a start, the efforts of the Building and Renovation Fund Committee are much appreciated by the Trustees.

The Trustees also appreciate the continued efforts of Library Director Barbara Mennard, Assistant Librarian Sharon Miller, and staff members Kelly Brassor, Nell Champoux and Caitlin Nutter and custodians Tracy and Tim Rogers. Many of our long-needed building repairs and/or maintenance have been ably undertaken by Bob Beck, a true asset not just to the Library, but to the entire Town. The Dickinson Memorial Library is very much a community library, in terms of the services it provides as well as in its sources of support. We, the Trustees, remain grateful for that support.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon McGowan, Chair
Lucille Dahlman
Phyllis Derigon
Debra Dirth
Michael Grunwald
Kathleen Banks Nutter



DOG OFFICER REPORT

Dogs Destroyed:	0
Loose Dogs Returned to owner or taken to the Kennel:	19
Nuisance Dogs:	24
Dogs reported missing:	8
Dogs reported found and kept by the finder:	0
Dogs reported running deer:	2
Dogs killed by cars:	0
Dogs hit by cars & taken to vet or returned to owner:	0

It has been our pleasure to again be working closely with the Dakin Animal Shelter in Leverett for the stray or unclaimed dogs that we have picked up.

Respectfully Submitted,

Polly Severance & Kevin Gray
Dog Officers

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Nfld Fire Department responded to a total of 178 emergency calls last year. The calls are itemized as follows:

Structure Fires	6
Chimney Fires	4
Vehicle Accidents	10
Vehicle Fires	4
Fire Alarms	
NMH	26
Others	16
Malicious False Alarms	2
Carbon Monoxide Alarms	4
Brush Fires	12
Illegal Burning	1
Electrical Fires	4
Power Lines Down	20
Smoke Investigations	2
Mutual Aid - Given	24
Received	19
Furnace Malfunctions	4
Propane Gas Leaks/Fires	5
Appliance Fires - Total	3
Refrigerator	1
Dryer	2
Homes Hit By Lightning	2
Elevator Rescue	2
Search for Missing Person	1
Assist P.D.	2
Hurricane "Floyd" Calls	1
Miscellaneous Calls - Public Service	13
TOTAL	178

The Nfld Fire Department had an extremely busy year last year. We battled (3) major house fires (Orange Rd., Alexander Hill Rd. and Main St.), plus extinguished (3) other fires that caused structural damage.

The weather seemed to play a big role in the increased numbers of calls we handled. An abnormally dry spring resulted in "Brush Burning Season" being curtailed. We handled 12 brush fires plus 6 mutual aid calls to assist our neighboring towns with brush and forest fires. A single thunderstorm caused 11 powerlines down, plus 3 homes had trees fall on them and 2 other homes were hit by lightening. Then there was Hurricane "Floyd" later in the season. It had us staffing the fire station as the emergency operations center on the

evening of Sept. 16th until 6:30 a.m. the next morning. We assisted 11 Town residences with emergencies, two needed emergency power for oxygen equipment, and the rest needed assistance with severely flooded basements. Then a late fall storm knocked out the 911 telephone system for most of Franklin County, and we again staffed our fire station as an emergency communications center.

A couple notes of interest, the first is any time there is a severe weather event like a blizzard, hurricane, severe thunderstorm or a threat of flooding, the fire station is always staffed. We act as an emergency operations center with communications, coordinating actions between the police, highway and fire department. The second note is most of the electrical lines in Northfield carry 13,800 volts of electricity through them!! When one of these falls to the ground they are not dead; one end of them is still energized with the full voltage! So treat any downed wire as a live wire. Keep away and call the fire department.

In station maintenance, I am pleased to announce that this spring, John Thayer will be making the necessary repairs to the fire station. This includes fixing the cupola, the trim and painting. It will be nice to finally see the building spruced up.

The 4" supply hose that was voted at last years Town Meeting has worked out very well. We have both pumpers equipped with 1500 feet of supply line each, as well as all the necessary fittings and appliances. This hose is like laying down a miniature water main to the fire. It is also compatible with many surrounding departments so we can supplement each other in the event of a large fire.

In closing, I reflect back on the Worcester tragedy of which Northfield sent down a delegation of six to the memorial service. Understanding that firefighting is a dangerous profession, whether it is full-time as in Worcester or part-time (on call) basis, as we are. The safety of the firefighters has to be foremost, but must be balanced with experience, training and the proper equipment to do the job at hand. I salute the firefighters for their devotion to keeping Northfield a safer place to live. I also want to thank all the other Departments, Boards & Committees that help us succeed in our endeavor.

Respectfully submitted,

F.M. "Skip" Dunnell III
Fire Chief

FRANKLIN COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

To the residents of the Solid Waste District:

The Solid Waste District celebrated its 10th anniversary in 1999, yet some residents still don't know what the District provides to their town. The role of the District is hard to describe. It provides an array of services - some visible and some not so visible- to those living and working in its towns. On any given day, District staff will field questions from residents, businesses, schools and town employees about recycling, composting, trash, and hazardous waste disposal. District staff conducts school education programs, including helping schools set up recycling and composting programs. The District also organizes special collections. In 1999, we hosted several collections for old, unwanted electronics plus a fall collection for hazardous waste. District staff also assists towns with filling out paperwork for grants, required state reports, and for special state-sponsored programs. The District continues to oversee the operation of four permanent collection sites for common household hazardous wastes - oil-based paint and paint-related products, used motor oil, oil filters, antifreeze, fluorescent lights, ballasts, and rechargeable batteries. These sites are open year-round to all District residents. There is a small disposal fee. The sites are located in Bernardston, Colrain, Conway, and Orange.

The Solid Waste District experienced some personnel changes in 1999. In August, Bob Rottenberg, District Administrator for ten years, resigned to take a position in another field. The District hired Jan Ameen, former Program Director, to fill Bob's position. Kirk Matenaer was hired in October to replace Jan as Program Director. Jan and Kirk are joined in the office by an Administrative Assistant, Kathy Korb.

Also in 1999, the District secured landfill capacity for member towns at the City of Northampton's lined landfill. This facility can provide safe disposal for the District's trash for another five years and possibly longer. This option became important when the Town of Bernardston closed its regional landfill. On the whole, the region is fortunate to have an environmentally sound disposal facility so close.

In September, the District's subcontractor for its plastic recycling program went out of business. This resulted in most residents being asked to put their plastics in the recycling container with glass and cans. For many residents, this change is easier and more convenient. Questions have arisen, however, about how the plastic is recycled. The plastic now goes to the Springfield Materials Recycling Facility where it is manually sorted from the glass and cans, baled, and shipped to markets where it will be recycled.

In 1999, more than 4,500 tons of recyclable paper, bottles, cans, plastic, and aluminum were recycled, saving approximately $250,000 in disposal costs. Our combined recycling rate was 42% -- just shy of the state's overall goal of 46%, but way ahead of the overall state average of 34%. Congratulations on a job well done! Please remember to buy products which have recycled content to keep the whole recycling system working.

Projects slated for 2000 include regional collections for electronics, tires, and appliances; a spring hazardous waste collection; and researching ways to reduce solid waste management costs to towns.

If you have questions about the District and its programs, call us at 413-772-2438; e-mail us at fcswmd@crocker.com; or visit us at 50 Miles Street in Greenfield.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Ameen - Administrator
Jessica Rajotte, Sunderland – Vice Chair
Arthur Cohen, Gill – Chair
Scott McKusick, Bernardston - Treasurer

FRANKLIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

82 Industrial Boulevard
Turners Falls, MA 01376
413-863-9561

We are pleased to submit the annual report of the administration of the Franklin County Technical School. The significant events that have transpired during the past year are noted. The October 1, 1999 enrollment was as follows:

Bernardston	22	Montague	68
Buckland	12	New Salem	10
Colrain	30	Northfield	19
Conway	18	Orange	71
Deerfield	22	Shelburne	9
Erving	7	Sunderland	10
Gill	3	Warwick	8
Greenfield	130	Wendell	7
Heath	7	Whately	7
Leyden	6	Non-District	22

Our work experience and cooperative work programs continue to expand and be an effective method for job placement of our students. In June 1999, 85 students graduated and their placement record was as follows:

Entered Work Force	59
Entered College	20
Entered Military	6

Student Award Highlights

UMASS Scholars: William Jerome, Gabriel McGuigan

Outstanding Vocational Technical Student: William Jerome

Superintendent's Certificate of Academic Excellence: William Jerome

Franklin County Rotary Club Most Improved Students Awards: Jayson McNamara; Angela Adams-Spofford; William Johnson; Joseph Cowburn; Amie Tardy; Jonathan Hardy; Nicole Blake; Tyson Spencer; Jon-Paul Tinker; Benjamin Byrne; Kimberly Charette; Michael Chilmark; Adam Disciullo.

FCTS Girls Softball Tri-County League Co-Champions.

FCTS Girls Basketball Team received the Franklin County Board of Officials Sportsmanship Award.

All League Award – Girls Basketball – Stephanie Wilkes, Sabrina Fernet. ***Boys Basketball*** – Ed Morley, Brad Curtis. ***Golf*** – William Jerome. ***Softball*** – Sarah Bates, Maria Rubinaccio, Sabrina Fernet. ***Track*** – Tyson Spencer, Joel Discuillo, Adam Discuillo, Brad Curtis. ***Football*** – Tony Rubinaccio, Rich Wilder. ***Soccer*** – Ryan Killen.

All Western Mass. Award: Sabrina Fernet, **Softball.**

Although we did not take on a major community project in the fall of 1999, our vocational programs remained active in the community throughout the year. The Beacon Housing Program was completed in June of 1999. Other completed projects include the stage for the Sunderland Elementary School, the sign for the Whately Transfer Station, the wiring of the new T.V. station at Mohawk Trail Regional School, the raising of water pipes at Powers Institute in Bernardston, and the refurbishing of the landscaping at Veteran's Mall in Greenfield. We also constructed bat racks for the Greenfield Girls' Softball League, fabricated grill components for the Rotary Club booth at the Franklin County Fair and also a road/gate for the Sunderland Parks & Recreation Commission. On-going projects include the airport project at Turners Falls, the construction of signs for the Newton Elementary School & the Christian Fellowship of Greenfield, as well as the production of a cookbook for the Shelburne Senior Center.

In conclusion, we would like to express our gratitude to the entire educational community of Franklin County Technical School and to all the residents of the County for their continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cliff Fournier
School Committee Chairman

Frederick H. Green, III
Superintendent-Director

Franklin Regional Council of Governments

425 Main St, Greenfield, MA 01301-3313
Telephone 413-774-3167

I am pleased to submit this annual report of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments for the 1999 calendar year. Through the year, the F.R.C.O.G. has continued to work to provide our member towns, the 26 towns of Franklin County, with direct municipal assistance, local and regional planning, community health services, and a strong regional voice for our rural area. As an organization created by and for the communities we serve, we are committed to providing cost effective and reliable services that address the needs of our member municipalities. The assessments paid by our towns - $331,000 in Fiscal Year 2000 - leverage an annual total of nearly $2 million in grants & programs serving the region.

Over the year, our efforts have focused on regional forums and regional advocacy. We continue to urge our legislators to implement a plan that restores Chapter 90 to a $150 million program and secures a stable and increasing fund of money for municipal road needs. We are working with our delegation to support legislation that better manages the beaver issue; recognizing both the property and financial damage beavers can cause while being sensitive to animal rights issues. We are drafting legislation to address issues regarding County roads. We sit on a statewide committee whose mission is to work with MassHighway to develop road design guidelines that are more sensitive to rural and community character. We are striving to have our regional voice heard in the review of Education Reform and the development of amendments to the law. We are working closely with our legislators to improve the telecommunications infrastructure in our region, which is vital to our economic health and future.

Through the year, the F.R.C.O.G. has offered its member communities information sessions and training opportunities on a wide variety of subjects of interest including open meeting law, public records law, ethics law, employment law, and the development of personnel policies. We have collaborated with state offices such as the Dept. of Environmental Prot. & the Governor's Highway Safety Bureau to deliver training opportunities that assist the work of municipal boards and officials. Upcoming trainings in the planning stages include a four-part series on municipal financial management and a session on contract and procurement law.

The programs of the F.R.C.O.G. have continued and expanded in the past year. The Planning Department is developing a regional open space plan, is beginning a three-year process of completing build-out analyses for all Franklin County towns, offers comprehensive transportation planning services, facilitates a program that prioritizes and advocates for federal funding for important economic development projects, and is managing a loan program that is funding the cleanup of regional brownfield sites. Several new grants have expanded our Community Health & Education programs to include a teen substance abuse prevention effort and a program that provides free home safety assessments to area residents. The Council also continues to offer fee-for-service programs in health inspection, procurement, engineering, and resource development that give municipal officials a straightforward way of purchasing technical services that they need.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all Council Representatives and other appointed board & committee members of the F.R.C.O.G. who take a primary role in developing the work we do. It is a pleasure to serve the efforts of the towns and regions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda L. Dunlavy
Executive Director

FRED W. WELLS TRUSTEES

Funds available for the fiscal year 1999/2000 are $173,769 (which includes unused scholarship money from 1998, that was reallocated to the scholarship fund).

Education: The Trustees received 275 applications for education scholarships and approved 229 students to receive $143,450. This amount includes the two $1,000 scholarships in Honor of Ralph & Hilda Haskins. The Trustees spent many hours on the selection process to ensure that as many students as possible could receive scholarship aid.

Health: Three (3) health programs were approved totaling $22,000.

Parents Anonymous	$1,500
NELCWIT	$10,500
Hospice Franklin County	$10,000

Agriculture: An amount of $8,319 was allowed by the Trustees for payment.

Shelburne Grange Fair	$300
Heath Agricultural Fair	$3,019
Franklin County Agricultural Fair	$5,000

Respectfully Submitted,

Theodore G. Penick
Trustee

GREAT NORTHFIELD BARBECUE

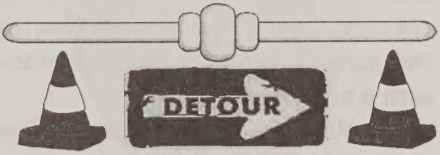
The First Annual Great Northfield Barbecue was held at the Northfield Mountain Recreation Center on September 5, 1999. An estimated 800 townspeople attended with food and other booths provided by Northfield organizations.

A total of $4,027.50 was raised by contribution, lead by Main Donor Greenfield Cooperative Bank and more than one hundred Northfield businesses and citizens. Expenditures totaled $3,531.60 resulting in a current balance of $495.90. Donations for fiscal 1999 were $631, expenses were $128.23. Donations for fiscal year 2000 totaled $3,396.50 and expenses totaled $3,403.37.

Pending approval at Town Meeting, the Second Annual Great Northfield Barbecue will be held on Sunday, September 3, 2000. The revolving fund will continue as the funding mechanism to ensure no public funds will be necessary for the event.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill McGee, Chairman
Great Northfield Barbecue
Committee



HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

With the end of winter weather, equipment was cleaned, sanders painted, sealed and plows repaired and painted. Winter debris and trash was picked up along the roadsides. Trucks were inspected and

repairs were made as needed to keep them safe and ready. Brush was trimmed and winter damage repaired, such as replacement of signs and posts.

Roads were graveled & graded and ditches were opened. The roads were swept, patched and culverts checked and replaced as needed.

Roadside mowing and trimming took place. Four miles of road were prepared and received a coat of oil & stone.

Heavy rains of September caused much damage and many little washes, flooding culverts and runoffs.

Approximately ¾ of a mile of Four-Mile Brook Road washed out. Fill was hauled to replace the roadway. The brook/road edge, at point of overflow, was replaced to divert water back to the brook bed.

A bridge on Four-Mile Brook Road was damaged by the storm and replaced with twin culverts. Chapter 90: Pine Meadow Road (Route 63 to Cross Rd.) was cleaned, drainage checked, and a new header reset on the culvert. Roadway was resurfaced with a bituminous overlay.

Mount Hermon Station Road from Caldwell Road to the Vermont State line was cleaned, basins raised and a bituminous concrete surface applied.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. "Mike" Gibson
Superintendent of Streets

Historical Commission

The Historical Commission activities in 1999 included:

- *Continued participation in the Northfield Planning Board's Northfield Futures study project.*
- *Planning work for an educational program in collaboration with the Gill Historical Commission to feature the ferry crossings between the two towns ("on hold" for the time being), and*
- *With the approval of the Board of Selectmen, nomination of the Pine Street School Property for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.*

These people served on the Northfield Historical Commission during 1999:

Homer Stavely, Chair
Alice Fortier
Jean Kozlowski
Irene Jurkowski
Ted Powell
Mary Jane Porter
Carolyn Spencer
Katy Wolff

HONOR ROLL COMMITTEE

The Honor Roll Committee is a seven-member subcommittee of the Selectboard appointed in 1998. Our purpose is to study the possibility of erecting a monument to honor Northfield veterans. As you may know, Northfield recognizes veterans of the Civil War and WWI with plaques at the elementary school and the town hall. Until now there has not been a firm plan to create a memorial to honor those who served in more recent conflicts from WWII to the present. Our committee has devoted much of the past year researching a suitable site for the monument. For a variety of reasons, including its central location, we have determined that the town hall provides the best location. With the assistance of administrative assistant Susan Draves, we invited students from the Conway School of Landscape Design to prepare sketches of the proposed site and monument. The students presented us with a portfolio of interesting designs that included plans for a small park. In the coming months we will continue to pursue an appropriate design. In addition we will research the monument's cost. As Commander of the Northfield VFW, I began collecting names for the monument in 1997. I anticipate that all names will be collected by the fall of 1999. Our committee will present plans for the monument to the public and will solicit your support for its funding at the annual town meeting in 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Carpenter, Chair
Thadd Bistrek, Sec'y
Raymond Parenteau
Edward Doolittle
Charles Field
James Field
Donald Randall
Thomas Hurley

NORTHFIELD RESCUE
(EMT'S)

Here we are again with the passing of another year. I can only report that it has been another great year of dedication from the professionals that serve

your community. Although our number of personnel available has dropped off slightly, the dedication to the communities is even stronger.

Our number of calls is up slightly. Northfield Rescue responded to approximately 126 emergency calls in your community. Those calls were answered by five or six professionals that were very active members. Some of us had to take a hiatus because of other commitments but many of us are back in full force.

A special "thanks" goes out to Danielle Flynn, past director, for her incredible dedication to this group of professionals. It seems that every call that came in "Dani" responded with her usual level of professionalism.

The words dedication and professionalism often times will single out an individual that really "shines" in a group. Although everyone within this group maintains a high level of dedication, Linda Shedd "shines". She is always responding to calls often in dual roles. She is on duty as a police officer or she is responding as an EMT. She lends a hand to our triad group in the town as well as any one else who may need her. Linda sets a fine example to the newer EMTs with over 10 years experience. Thanks Linda, for a job well done.

Congratulations to Dave Nadeau and Rob Leighton for all their hard work that lead to a successful EMT certification. Welcome to our group of professionals.

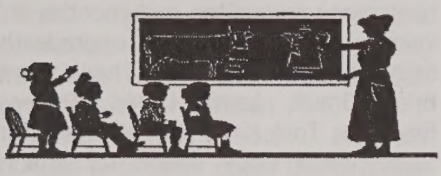
In closing, the new leadership starts the millennium with many new ideas. The group has fresh enthusiasm and continues to serve the Town of Northfield anytime, day or night, when the citizens call for help.

Northfield EMT's / 1st Responders: Linda Shedd, Tom Bergeron, Christopher Masloski, Danielle Flynn, Rob Leighton, Renee Lake, Jim Lake, Sharon Clark, Spencer Bristol, Geoff Iacussa, Jim Dresser, Dave Nadeau and Robert Englehart.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee D. Lake, EMT-P
Director

NORTHFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Elementary School Council

Kris Bowser, Co-Chair Wanda McIsaac
Cathy Hawkins-Harrison Les Nelson
Carol O'Brien

Principal

Geraldine D. Smith
University of Massachusetts at Amherst – B.A. Elementary Education
Northeastern University – M.Ed. Elementary Education Math
Westfield State College – C.A.G.S. Educational Administration

School Physician

Carl Perkins, M.D.

School Nurse

Catherine McGarty, RN, MSN, CPNP

School Calendar

School Open August 31, 1999
School Open November 29, 1999
School Open January 3, 2000
School Open February 28, 2000
School Open April 24, 2000

School Close November 5, 1999
School Close December 24, 1999
School Close February 21, 2000
School Close April 17, 2000
School Close June 12, 2000*

(*subject to State requirements)

Enrollment Report

Elementary:

Grade	Boys	Girls	Total
PK	19	11	30
K	18	15	33
1	21	13	34
2	15	14	29
3	20	16	36
4	15	26	41
5	21	24	45
6	23	28	51
	152	**147**	**299**

Pioneer Valley:

Grade	Boys	Girls	Total
7	25	28	53
8	20	16	36
9	18	23	41
10	13	12	25
11	13	16	29
12	7	21	28
	96	**116**	**212**

Franklin County Technical School: 19

Private Schools:
Full Circle School: 6
Northfield Mount Hermon: n/a

Northfield Elementary School Principal's Report

I am pleased to submit this annual report for Northfield Elementary School for the period of January 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999. This has been an exciting second year for me as principal. I have met many parents, community members, and elected and appointed town officials and am impressed with the commitment of Northfield to its citizens, especially the children. In

behalf of your children, I thank you for your continued support.

We opened on August 31st with an enrollment of 304 students in preschool through grade 6. New staff members joining the school this year are Amy Freeman, preschool teacher, Danielle Lucisano, sixth grade teacher, and Daphne Clark, Betterstart teacher. Amy Trowbridge, fifth grade teacher is filling in for John Seelen who is on a leave of absence.

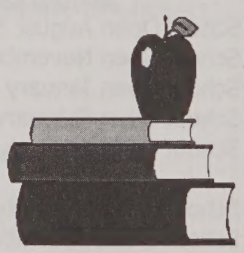
In December 1998 Pollyanna Davis our school nurse retired after 27 years. We are pleased to welcome Catherine McGarty who comes to us with a great deal of pediatric nursing experience.

The School Council, an advisory board for the principal with representation from the school staff, parents, and community, meets monthly and continues to focus on educational excellence. School climate, professional development, and curriculum improvement are focuses of this year's School Improvement Plan. The council is continuing to work on updating of the school handbook. This is a huge task which the council is hoping to complete for the next school year.

The teachers continue to work on aligning our curriculum with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. This change will help us to better prepare the students to be successful in the new Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) tests which our fourth grade students will take each year. In future years, the testing will be spread out to grades 3, 4, 5, and 6. These curriculum and tests have created very high standards for our students - the bar has been raised. Young people must now not only have a good knowledge of the basics but must also have the ability to problem solve using this information.

The Northfield Elementary School technology committee met monthly this year to plan and work to upgrade the technology at the school. Thank you to Brian Brault, Laura DiBari, Rebecca Emerson, Tom King, Ray McIsaac, Tim Seeley, and Cody Sisson for sharing their expertise with us and for working with me on this important project. We now have an upgraded computer lab with 23 stations of 486 computers. These computers were state surplus and with some work, have proven to serve our needs well. The computer room has been improved thanks to the Town of Northfield and the talents of Steve Fields, our maintenance person. New counters for the computers have been built and the electrical outlets have been expanded to allow for the increased number of work stations. Thank you to the PTO and Kris Bowser for making drapes which help to diffuse the light on the monitors.

The Northfield Elementary School PTO is a cornerstone of the school community. This group of parents has sponsored family activities such as family roller skating parties, family sock hops, book fairs, and a spring carnival. Fundraisers have helped provide items for the school that we are unable to include in budget. The focus this year is on raising money to help fund an improved playground for all the children in the community. Parent volunteers are an invaluable resource for teachers and



students. Thank you to the many people who have volunteered to help in the classrooms, share a special talent with us, and chaperone or drive for a field trip. The school experience of the children is enriched by your contribution of time. Please accept our sincere appreciation for your most important contribution to the educational experiences of our children

The After-School Program continues to prosper under the direction of Amy Novak-Whiteman. Amy has secured grants from the Department of Education to subsidize and expand this program. Thank you to the Foundation for Educational Excellence for continuing to support Amy in her work.

The Northfield Kiwanis Club has helped the students in a number of ways. They sponsored an essay contest with Savings Bond prizes and donated much needed items such as a printer, tape recorder, and headphones / listening station. Thank you for your help.

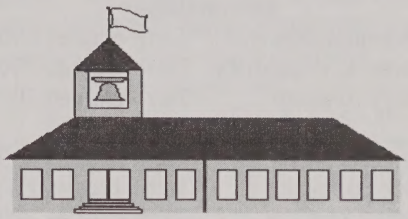
Our collaboration with the Northfield Mount Hermon School continues to benefit the children. Students from NMH, volunteer in classrooms and in the After-School Program. Our scholarship fund to help students with field trip expenses has been enhanced by the school's generosity.

In closing, I wish to emphasize that Northfield Elementary School continues to support a learning environment that seeks to develop the whole child. Academics, arts, technology, self-discipline and respect for all people are part of our comprehensive curriculum. Thank you to all the citizens and the town boards. It is a fulfilling challenge for me to work together with you to help the children of Northfield reach their greatest potential.

Respectfully submitted,

Geraldine D. Smith
Principal

PIONEER VALLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL



Office of the Superintendent
97 F. Sumner Turner Road
Northfield, Massachusetts 01360
(414) 498-2911

Superintendent of Schools
Kevin J. Courtney
University of Massachusetts – BA English
Fitchburg State College – Med
University of Massachusetts – Ed D Candidate

Administrative Assistant
Dayle A. Doiron
BA English Literature/French – DePauw University
MHS Administration – Keene State College
Certified School Business Administrator, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Administrative Secretary
Debby L. Lincoln

District Treasurer
Sharon L. Finnell

Accounts Payable
Eleanor E. Rafuse

Central Office Hours

School Days	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Vacation Days	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

PVRS District Committee Members 1999

Bernardston	
Jeremiah Donovan	Term expires 2000
Karen L. Fitzpatrick	Term expires 2000
Barry Auskern	Term expires 2000
Leyden	
Sam Bartlett	Term expires 2002
Rick Fontaine	Term expires 2002
Peggy Kaeppel	Term expires 2000
Northfield	
Betsy Llewelyn	Term expires 2002
Jed Proujansky	Term expires 2000
Patricia Shearer, Chair	Term expires 2000
Warwick	
Linda Gale	Term expires 2000
Mark Maynard, Co-Chair	Term expires 2002
Janice Starmer	Term expires 2000

PVRS District Superintendent's Report

It is a pleasure to submit my twelfth annual report as Superintendent of the Pioneer Valley Regional School District. Among the many issues we dealt with in 1999 there were four that predominated: building projects, operating budgets, accountability, and school safety.

The completion of one building project and the beginning of another were the highlights of our district building program in 1999. Last August the town of Warwick hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open the brand new Warwick Community School. It was a major celebration attended by many residents and special guests. In September the school opened its doors to students for the first time. The consensus is that the building is even better than advertised. If you would like to see for yourself, please contact the principal, Mr. Wallace McCloud, to arrange a tour.

The high school project got underway this fall, following a second round of construction bids and town meetings that increased our authorization to $21.6 million. We are currently in the "ugly" phase with heavy equipment and mounds of dirt everywhere. Contractors have cut trees, demolished the "annex", and ripped up the gym floor. Several classrooms have moved to our new "modular village", located on the south end of the campus. And this is just the beginning. There will be many more changes in the months to come. We are making good progress and will continue to do so if we maintain our flexibility, patience and good humor.

The 1999/00 budget process was very strange. It began last spring when we discovered that town assessments (established by the state, under Educational Reform) were inconsistent. Two towns had large increases, one had a small increase and the other had a significant decrease. That made passage of the school budget difficult. With great cooperation from town officials, however, we overcame that hurdle. We then waited for the passage of the state budget, from which we receive more than half of our funding. We expected that to occur during the summer. Much to our dismay that did not happen until December, six months into our fiscal year! We had to put many plans on hold, including new equipment, supplies and personnel. Ultimately we got most of the money that we needed, but it was so late in coming that we have

been scrambling to make up for lost time. That does not diminish the thanks that we owe to our local legislators for advocating so strongly and successfully for the additional aid. Their support was invaluable.

Student, school, and district accountability are the top priorities for the Department of Education and therefore for us as well. The second series of tests in the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) were administered last spring to all 4th, 8th, and 10th graders in English, Math, Science and Social Studies. Once again our scores clustered around the state averages. That is not good news because the averages are relatively low. It certainly is not where we want to be. As I have said in the past, I am not surprised because the implementation of Educational Reform is more like a marathon than a sprint. It is going to take enormous time, energy, and resources to revamp our curriculum. We are working hard at it, but it is not going to happen overnight.

By and large, the Curriculum Frameworks and MCAS are good initiatives, but I am dismayed by the simplistic notion that you can judge a student or school or district by a single test. I do not think that is what the Department of Education intends (a much more comprehensive evaluation is in the works for schools and districts), but that is what happens when the media ranks schools by scores that vary by statistically insignificant differences. A test may be a valid indicator, but anybody who wants to comprehensively "evaluate" students or systems must spend considerable time in schools and classrooms. I do not know if education was ever a simple matter, but it surely is not today.

Concerns about school safety took center stage last spring in reaction to the shootings at Columbine High School. For several weeks, issues relating to school safety and security dominated meetings and conversations. Everyone was affected: students, staff, and parents. Relentless media coverage, rumors, and bomb threats increased the anxiety. Fortunately, the school year ended without a serious incident and the new school year has been quiet.

I cannot thank our local police and fire officials enough for their cooperation and assistance. Their response last spring was extraordinary and their expertise has been indispensable in developing safety policies, procedures, and prevention programs throughout the district.

Once again I thank you for your support and the opportunity to serve you.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin J. Courtney
Superintendent of Schools

PVRS District Administrator of Special Education Report

This is my second annual report as the Administrator of Special Education for the Pioneer Valley Regional School District. We are currently providing two hundred and five (205) students between the ages of three (3) and twenty-two (22) with special education services.

Students who receive special education services have been identified in accordance with state and federal regulations. Such identification is based upon the finding that a student, because of a disability (developmental delay, or intellectual, sensory, neurological, emotional, communication, physical, specific learning or health impairment)

is unable to progress effectively with only regular education services.

Nearly all of the students identified as having special needs receive a combination of regular and special education services at the four elementary schools in Bernardston, Leyden, Northfield, and Warwick or at Pioneer Valley Regional School. A small number of students are placed outside of our school district in alternative day and residential placements.

Special education services provided consist of: academic support, substantially separate reading and math programs, speech and language therapy, psychological services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, services for the deaf, hard of hearing and visually impaired and specialized transportation. Programming is provided during the school year and for a small number of students in extended school year programs as deemed necessary by the special education team.

In closing, I would like to recognize the hard working and dedicated special education staff in this school district. They really make a significant difference for the children and young adults in our programs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gordon B. Parker, Ed. D.
Administrator of Special Education

PVRS District Principal's Report

I herewith submit my nineteenth report as Principal of Pioneer Valley Regional School.

Personnel Changes

Resignations:

Angie Phillips	Spanish
Karen Schlichter	Science
Nancy Barton	Office Aide
Amy Pelletier	Social Studies
Paul Sather	Science
Lisa Sussman	English
Karen Poffenburger	Art/Spec. Needs

New Hires:

David Wissman	Art/Dean of Students (P.T.)
Kevin Murphy	Spanish
Judy Richardson	Office Aide
Aimee Brown	Social Studies
Jodi Stevens	Science
Victoria Blackmore	English
Bennett Nicholson	English (1-yr. position
Tony Streeter	Custodian

Leave of Absence:

Joyce Mehaffey	School Psychologist
Mary Ellen Brown	English

Reassignments:

John Lepore	Science Department Head Teacher
Christine Johnston	Middle School Coordinator (P.T.)
Harold Parker	Custodian to Warwick Cmty School

Department Reports

Business Department:

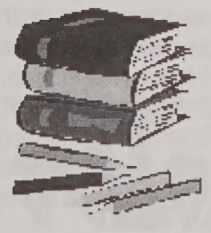
The business department is utilizing the 21-station PC (networked) lab every period of the day with accounting, keyboarding, computer applications, desktop publishing, yearbook, consumer math, distributive education, and the seventh grade rotation classes. We look forward to including telecommunications when the lab is connected to the internet in the new building.

Curriculum for both the consumer math and yearbook courses have been written this past year and we are in the process of updating the accounting and distributive education curriculum. Our goal is to continue to align curriculum

with the needs and expectations of the business and professional world as we provide conceptual as well as technical training.

With the new keyboarding software, students are able to progress faster, allowing for more instruction and practice in word processing during the semester. Our intent is to place more emphasis on the application of the software so the students can better utilize their computers at home. The yearbook class produced an excellent 160-page book together with a "spring" 10-page supplement and succeeded in raising $16,000 through community ads and book sales to cover the cost of the publication. Enrollment in the accounting classes has increased and the students are enjoying new textbooks and correlating automated accounting software.

The department is currently in the process of drafting articulated agreements with Greenfield Community College so that keyboarding, accounting, and some computer classes may be accepted as credit by GCC while the student takes the course(s) here at Pioneer Valley Regional School. The business department continues to strive to help students achieve success in their future endeavors by developing measurable skills, professional ethics, and positive personal characteristics.



English Department:

The English department has spent the last year implementing the new scope and sequence which was designed to align curriculum with the Department of Education's "English Language Arts Curriculum Framework". Along with this effort, seventh grade teachers have met periodically with elementary teachers in an effort to align language arts curriculum.

The department continues to gather and test new educational materials, which will help students become proficient on the MCAS. New textbooks are being carefully reviewed and tested to ensure students are receiving accurate and up-to-date materials. Along with the addition and renovation work at Pioneer, the department wants to have contemporary materials in place when the project is completed.

In response to the latest MCAS results, the department is continuing to focus on helping students gain skills necessary to pass the graduation requirement. Each question from last spring's assessment is carefully checked for results. Areas where students did not do well are further emphasized in classroom activities and learning.

The English Department continues to offer heterogeneous classes at grade level. Electives in poetry and creative writing are also offered. Student-centered learning is still a major focus of the department, offering students a variety of educational opportunities and teaching methods. The emphasis remains on teaching students how to learn through skill development and subject matter.

Family, Consumer & Health Sciences Department

The Mass. Comprehensive Health Curriculum Standards were revised and approved by the state in November, 1999. Pioneer's family, consumer, and health sciences curriculum are being reviewed and revised for the third time and linked to the Massachusetts frameworks. In addition, cross referencing with the National Standards for Family Consumer Sciences Education

has strengthened course and performance objectives.

This fall teachers were trained in Project Alert, a drug prevention program for middle school students. A unique feature of Project Alert is its emphasis on helping students identify internal as well as external pressures resulting in a better ability to resist risky behaviors. Students are enjoying the activity-based lessons.

Department members are committed to the whole school and to student success beyond the classroom. We are active in the Parent Teacher Partnership, serve on the PVRSD Health Council, Increase the Peace Committee, Dual Enrollment Committee, and advise Peer Mediation. We are also working together to create the best design for Pioneer students and staff with our commitment to the Middle School Design Committee.

The Comprehensive Health Council sponsors community health updates. Each presentation is held at PVRS and is open to students, parents, and members of the community.

Workshops on Stress Management and Sports Injury Prevention were held last spring. In November, an update on alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs including PVRS harm reduction programs and media influences was well attended and in January the Stretch and Tone Right workshop featured tips on creating an individual workout program. Signs will be posted in area stores for two spring presentations.

Fine Arts Department

The fine arts department at Pioneer is continuing to develop and align its curriculum with the State of Massachusetts Education Frameworks.

The state has identified the arts as one of the core instructional areas in curriculum along with English, math science, social studies, and foreign languages. As a core subject we have been looking at ways of integrating strands of the arts frameworks through all curriculum areas. This year we have reintroduced theater in both the junior and senior high curriculum. It has been met with great student and faculty enthusiasm.

The fall of 1999 brought a major change for the PVRS art facility. With the Phase I construction at Pioneer, the art room had to move to new and smaller temporary facilities. The change has necessitated curriculum modifications for the spring and fall of 2000. We hope to be in our new and permanent facilities at the start of 2001. The new facilities should fully address the current and future needs of the visual arts at Pioneer for many years to come. Pioneer's art students have been able to go to some of the best art schools in the country. The new facility should strengthen student learning and help facilitate more post-secondary placement.

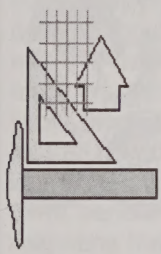
Both the vocal and instrumental programs have continued to grow and mature at Pioneer. Amy Kiendzior has continued to produce outstanding all-school musicals and choral

concerts in conjunction with the band. Jonathan Cade has developed a very strong feeder program in the elementary schools for his instrumental

program at PVRS. The growth of the band in both size and quality has been phenomenal under Jonathan's direction. The remodeling of the music facilities will take place in Phase 2 of the building project and we hope that the disruption will have a minimal impact on the program.

In conclusion, the arts at Pioneer are growing as they align with the state educational frameworks. The separation and development of a new middle school concept should further strengthen the arts in the curriculum. We hope that funding for the arts will keep pace with the mandated inclusion of the arts in the curriculum.

Industrial Arts/Technology Education Department:



The industrial arts/technology department continues to prepare students in grades 7-12 with basic skills necessary to produce quality projects, drawing and architectural renderings. Enrollment continuously increases and student enthusiasm remains very high. To meet the requirements of modern technology, particularly with this increase in class size, the department sorely needs computer-aided drafting stations and upgraded shop equipment. This equipment is included in the new building project, which will hopefully be up and functional by the spring of 2001. This computer-aided equipment will properly prepare students for the technological workplace and those going on to college.

Math Department

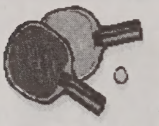
The math department is continuing in its efforts to investigate ways in which we may better prepare our students for their lives beyond Pioneer. These efforts include, but are not limited to, seeking ways to improve our students' performance on the MCAS examinations. To meet these goals, the math department has set the following priorities:

1. Alignment of the Pioneer curriculum with that outlined in the state frameworks. The goal of this is to ensure that, by the time they are tested, students have been taught the skills included in the test.

2. Continuation of the purchase of new textbooks. This year we purchased new books for integrated Math I, a ninth grade course. We have requested money in our budget to replace the textbooks in all mandatory classes, with top priority for tenth grade and middle school.
3. Determination of ways in which our routine testing practices can be made to emulate the styles used on state tests which include multiple choice questions, short answer questions, and open-response questions.
4. Submission of a proposal for the creation of a new course which will provide an alternative to Integrated Math III. Such a course will be essential to assist those students who fail the math portion of the MCAS examinations.
5. Raising standards for advancement to the next course in the math sequence.
6. Finding ways in which we can work with teachers in the four elementary schools to promote more uniform and complete preparation of incoming seventh graders.
7. Working closely with the Middle School Design Committee. Half of

our department is on this committee which is faced with the task of devising a workable plan for a middle school within Pioneer. Such a plan is crucial to the foundation of our math program.

Physical Education



The physical education department continues to serve the students at Pioneer. The basic skills that are taught will allow our students to participate in a variety of physical activities throughout their lives. For those who participate in lifetime physical activities, statistics predict a longer and healthier life.

January 1, 2000 was the official closing of the gymnasium and locker rooms. Our first classes in the new millennium began with a unit in table tennis in the cafeteria. We worked on the push stroke, backspin, topspin, backhand and forehand. After learning the basics, all classes enjoyed a double elimination tournament.

In the cafeteria, our program will focus on a fitness-based curriculum. Students are currently experiencing Tae Bo. Students have been taught warm up techniques, target heart rate, and cool down procedures. We will be using rowing machines, jump ropes and stationary bicycles to elevate and record heart rates. The personal fitness classes are currently in a dance unit and have experienced the electric slide, chicken dance, bunny hop, Mexican hat dance and some country western dances.

The 1999-2000 school year has added new challenges in dealing with limited space. It is well worth it, as we look to the future in our new facilities.

Athletic Department:

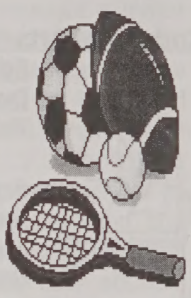
Pioneer again had very successful teams both in W/L records and the number of participants.

This past spring baseball, softball, and volleyball all qualified for post-season tournaments.

The baseball team won the Hampshire League and Western Mass titles. In addition, we enjoyed being in the spotlight having Brad Baker play for our team and then get drafted by our own Red Sox.

The boys volleyball team won it's league and were Western Massachusetts finalists.

Members of the boys and girls' track teams continued into post season competition, some even into New England competition at Brown University.



Kevin Harrington qualified for the state golf tournament and made a good showing.

This fall the boys' and girls' soccer teams qualified for post-season play. The boys won the McGrath League and were eliminated from the playoffs by Gateway Regional late in the rounds. The girls' volleyball team was very successful posting a 17-5 record and beating Frontier and losing to Turners Falls in the Western Massachusetts finals.

The winter of '99-'00 has been very interesting and complex. With the tremendous help from area A.D.s, especially Frank Millard at NMH, we have found practice space and game sites for all of our teams. Participant members are up on the middle school level and a little thin on V/JV levels, but teams are managing to make things work. All teams are looking forward to post-season tournament bids.

Science Department:

We received a grant through the Superintendent of Schools, Kevin Courtney, to bring our curricula closer to meeting the state frameworks. One day was spent selecting a textbook series for grades 7 to 9, which we eventually hope will be shifted down to grades 6 to 8. All members participated in making a criteria matrix and each of us analyzed and compared six different titles with the frameworks and several other criteria.

The remainder of the grant was used to discover what we had for equipment, materials and supplies in the department. During the last four years, we have had 4 out of 6 new department members which makes it difficult to know what we have and where it is located. We determined that a complete inventory and clean out would be of great benefit to everyone and with the upcoming building project, it only made sense to dispose of items we had no use for, rather than boxing and moving them several times.

We continue to work toward several goals. First, we are preparing for the middle school program by designating departmental members who wish to teach at this level entirely. Second, we are preparing to enter a new building that promises technology that we desperately need to prepare our students for the future. Third, we will continue to develop curricula that meet the needs of our students and the state frameworks. This involves meeting with the elementary school teachers and improved science curriculum development at a district level. Time and resources are necessary for this to occur.

Social Studies Department

Gary Lambert, Joe Nowicki, and Justin Duncan spent time last summer writing new curriculum for the 9th grade "World Studies" course. The new curriculum brings Pioneer in line with the new Massachusetts frameworks through 9th grade. This summer we intend to upgrade the 10th grade curriculum.

Last spring the 8th grade classes under the guidance of Susanne Burgess, Henry Parkhurst, and Amy Pelletier created a U.S. History Fair. The 7th grade teachers put on the Ancient History fair as usual, and the 8th grade teachers thought that the 8th grade should try a similar activity. After much work, planning, and great student projects the fair was a huge success and enjoyed by fellow students and parents. This fall, the 7th graders did a wonderful project on diversity. Students made civil-tees to reflect respect for the diversity in our culture.

The 9th graders again went to Battleship Cove to see the USS Massachusetts and other ships. Our 1000th student toured the ship! The 9th grade will not go to the cove this year due to curriculum changes, but will be going as 10th graders.

2000 Student Government Day Representative – Gabriel Tusinski

2000 Geography Bee 8th grade winner – Timothy Maguire

2000 Model Congress members – Gabriel Tusinski, Anya Babbitt, Jessica Shiner, Justin Whiteman, Emily Clough, Lindsay Coutu.

Foreign Language Department

In anticipation of future MCAS foreign language testing at the 8th and 10th grade levels, the foreign language department is providing and expanding its curriculum at the middle school level. All 7th grade students are required to

take 6 weeks of French and Spanish and 8th grade students are required to enroll in French I or Spanish I for the entire year. Our goal is to have an elementary program in place in the near future, whereby students will be introduced to foreign languages at the elementary level.

1999 was a year that included cultural exchanges and trips abroad. In July, 25 students accompanied Madame Worden and 4 adults to France. Some of the highlights were the Louvre Museum, Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral, Palace of Versailles, as well as an evening boat ride on the Seine River. We toured the Loire Valley and visited beautiful chateaux and then concluded our trip to the Normandy Beaches. Pioneer is involved in a Mexican exchange program with Sierra Nevada School in Mexico City. Last year Pioneer hosted 12 students and in February of this year 7 Pioneer students will travel to Mexico City with Senorita Pinkos. Pioneer students will once again host the Mexican students for 2 weeks in April, 2000.

Middle School

Over the past several years administrators and staff have been meeting to implement a middle school philosophy within our 7-12 regional facility. Working from a mission statement and guiding beliefs established through the Middle School Task Force, a group of twenty-five teachers and administrators have been meeting as a Middle School Design Committee to meet the challenge of developing a model that will work in our school with its shared staff and facilities.

It is our goal to phase in a model over the next three years so that a middle school is up and running to coincide with the completion of the building project.

In Closing

The building project is underway and at this writing the annex is being demolished, gym classes are meeting in the cafeteria (except at lunchtime), art has moved to what used to be the typing room and industrial arts is now located in Room 52 next to the main office. There are now six modular buildings on site with ten classrooms and two changing rooms being utilized. Everyone is being inconvenienced to some degree so there actually exists an "esprit de corp" stemming from the mutual discomfort created by the project. We all know it will be worth it in the end and we appreciate the support of the taxpayers who have made it possible.

Jack Ware and Alan Rogers will be retiring this year.

Jack has served Pioneer for almost forty years. He has always done his best to maintain this building and the ground and I believe has made it possible for a building which opened in 1957 to look as good as it does. He will be missed.

Alan Rogers has done an outstanding job as a guidance counselor over the thirty-two years he has served the district. He also served a brief stint as Director of Pupil Personnel Services, a forerunner of Special Education Administrator. His contributions to this school and the students it serves are many and varied. Because of his personal expertise in the field of computers, we have been able to keep our scheduling, grade reporting, record keeping, and other administrative functions up to speed. His spirit of helpfulness and expertise in many areas will be missed.

I will also be retiring this year. I have enjoyed my time at Pioneer and will miss the many friends I have made

in these four towns, especially the students. I wish my successor the best.

I thank the School Committee and Kevin Courtney, the Superintendent, for giving me the opportunity to serve and for their support. I thank the community, the faculty, staff and students for all you do to make Pioneer what it is – a great school.

Respectfully submitted,
Evrett H. Masters, Principal

TRUST FUNDS-SCHOLARSHIPS

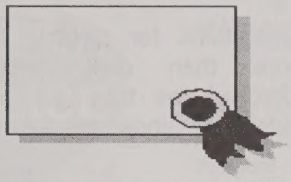
Balance on hand June 30, 1998		$90,697.84	
Receipts – Interest Income		4,826.24	
Donations		13,183.41	
Expenses – Bounced Check & Fees		(40.78)	
			$108,666.71
Disbursements – Scholarships			
Stephen Balk Scholarship	Nathan Santerre	$250.00	
Theodore Cronyn Award	Melissa Zimmerman	50.00	
J.P. Davis Scholarship	Christina Gardner	250.00	
	Daniel Harrison	250.00	
Leonard Eastman Award	Katrina Damkoehler	50.00	
Good Neighbors Scholarship	Nicholas Raymond	75.00	
Grover/Barnes Scholarship	Meghan Barnes	250.00	
Lois Humphrey Scholarship	Julie Shockro	300.00	
Jackson/Hammond Scholarship	Melissa Fiske	250.00	
	Nicholas Raymond	250.00	
Evelyn Lawley Math Award	Rebecca Carlson	45.00	
Alfred Orleans Award	Jocelyn Brown-Saracino	50.00	
Thadeus Mark Ostrowski Schol.	Joseph Pasteris	50.00	
Tyler Memorial Award	Eric Griffin	25.00	
George A Warner Scholar	Hillary Szteliga	40.00	
	Stacia Adams	250.00	
	Christina Patch	250.00	
Lucy Franklin Wilder Award	Melissa Zimmerman	100.00	
P.B. Allen Scholarship	Nicholas Raymond	200.00	
Orinda Phelps Holbrook Schol.	Melissa Fiske	400.00	
McGowan Memorial Award	Jennifer Gagnon	500.00	
Jason Peters Scholarship	Daniel Dalton	100.00	
			3,985.00
Balance on hand June 30, 1999			104,681.71
			$108,666.71

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon L Finnell, District Treasurer
PVRS District

PIONEER VALLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Combined Balance Sheet – All Fund Types and Account Group
June 30, 1999

	Governmental Fund Types			Fudiciary Fund	Account Group	Total
Assets	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Type Trust & Agency	General Long-Term Obligations	(Memorandum Only)
Cash and equivalents	$882,544	$67,799	$732,443	$67,212		$1,749,998
Investments	64			93,402		93,466
Receivables:						
State & Federal governments		12,734				12,734
Other	89,396	9,768				99,164
Due from other funds	185,267	127,368				312,635
Amount to be provided for retirement of long-term debt					795,532	795,532
Total assets	$1,157,271	$217,669	$732,443	$160,614	$795,532	$3,063,529
Liabilities and Fund Balances						
Liabilities:						
Note payable - temporary			$3,735,000			$3,735,000
Warrants payable and accruals	529,328	106,211	363,346			998,885
Other liabilities				55,932		55,932
Due to other funds	127,368		185,267			312,635
Note payable - long-term					52,000	52,000
Capital lease obligations payable					87,712	87,712
Accumulated post-employment benefits					655,820	655,820
Total liabilities	656,696	106,211	4,283,613	55,932	795,532	5,897,984
Fund Balances						
Reserved for expenditures		111,458		37,625		149,083
Reserved for capital expenditures	60,000					60,000
Reserved for capital deficit			(3,551,170)			(3,551,170)
Reserved for endowment				67,057		67,057
Unreserved:						
Designated for authorized deferral of teacher's pay	(128,647)					(128,647)
Designated for subsequent year's expenditures	65,000					65,000
Undesignated	504,222					504,222
Total fund balances	500,575	111,458	(3,551,170)	104,682		(2,834,455)
Total liabilities and fund balances	$1,157,271	$217,669	$732,443	$160,614	$795,532	$3,063,529

PIONEER VALLEY REGIONAL SCHOOL
Scholarships and Awards Presented at Graduation on June 4, 1999



Valedictorian: Alexander Kalish
Salutatorian: Joseph Pasteris
Pearl B. Allen Memorial Scholarship: Megan Barnes, Lauren Sibley
Alice, Eric & Oscar Anderson Memorial Scholarship: Lindsey Cornwell, Neil Dempsey, Rebecca Fellows, Brian Lepore
Stephen F. Balk Award: Nathan Santerre
Dean Beaudoin Memorial Scholarship: Melissa Zimerman
Bernardston Community Club Scholarship: Hillary Szteliga
Bernardston Kiwanis Club Scholarship: Rebecca Carlson, Travis Sinclair
Bernardston Veterans' Organization: Christina Lepore
Dona D. Cadwell Memorial Scholarship: Katrina Damkoehler
Theodore Cronyn Award: Melissa Zimmerman
Cushman
Memorial and Morgan Fund Scholarship: Katrina Damkoehler, Travis Sinclair
Jefferson P. Davis Memorial Athletic Scholarship: James Trill, Melissa Zimmerman
Leonard C. Eastman Award: Katrina Damkoehler
The Sarah Finch Scholarship of the Good Neighbors Organization: James Trill
Freedom Art Gallery Scholarship: Katrina Damkoehler
Greenfield Co-operative Bank Scholarship: Alexander Kalish
Evelyn M. Grover-Prudence A. Barnes Memorial Award: Megan Barnes
John A. Hogan Memorial Scholarship of the Pioneer Valley Union Education Association: Jennifer Gagnon
Orinda Phelps Holbrook Memorial Scholarship: Alexander Kalish
Lois Humphrey Memorial Award: Julie Schockro
Ethel F. Jackson Memorial Scholarship: Marisa Horta, James Trill
Ladies Auxiliary of Veterans of Foreign Wars Scholarship: Nathan Gray
Evelyn G. Lawley Memorial Award: Rebecca Carlson
Gordon W. Leavis Memorial Scholarship: Mark LaPlante
Leyden PTO Sponsored Pearl Rhodes Scholarship: Jocelyn Brown-Saracino, Melissa Zimmerman
Massachusetts Elks Scholarship, Inc. Scholarship: Brett Constantine
Don Maynard Memorial Scholarship: Megan Barnes
Gerald and Edward McGowan Memorial Award: Jennifer Gagnon
Maria McNamara Scholarship: Nathan Santerre
Northfield Country Players Award: Robert Thayer
Northfield Fire Department Floyd M. Dunnell, Jr. Memorial Scholarship: Nathan Gray, Mark LaPlante
Northfield Fortnightly Scholarship: Lauren Sibley, Travis Sinclair
Northfield Grange Scholarship: Lauren Sibley
Northfield Kiwanis Club:
Walter F. Asseng Memorial Scholarship: Nathan Gray
F. Sumner Turner Memorial Scholarship: Lauren Sibley
Jonathan "Jake" Mayberry Scholarship: James Trill
Alfred Orlens Citizenship Award: Jocelyn Brown-Saracino
Thadddeus M. Ostrowski Memorial Award:
Joseph Pasteris
Jason Peters Memorial Scholarship: Lindsey Black
Anita L. Pike Memorial Scholarship: Rebecca Fellows
Pioneer Spirit Award: Kyle Van Natta
Pioneer Valley Regional School Scholarship: Lindsey Black, Jocelyn Brown-Saracino, Kristin Bukowski, Rebecca Carlson, Lindsey Cornwell, Neil Dempsey,

Rebecca Fellows, Marisa Horta, Alexander Kalish, Brian Lepore, Christina Lepore, Julie Shockro, Lauren Sibley, Hillary Szteliga
PVRS National Honor Society Scholarship: Joseph Pasteris
PVRS Student Council Scholarship: James Trill
Leonard D. Raymond Memorial Scholarship: Anna Walker
Rotary Club of Franklin County Scholarship: Marisa Horta
Isacc B. Snow Award: Katrina Damkoehler-Highest academic from Bernardston, Rebecca Carlson-2nd Highest academic from Bernardston
Gerald Swinerton Memorial Scholarship: Marisa Horta
Tyler Family Memorial Award: Eric Griffin
George A. Warner Award: Hillary Szteliga
George A Warner Fund Scholarship: Kristin Bukowski, Katrina Damkoehler
Warwick Community Scholarship: Jesse Atkinson, Matthew Johnson
Fred W. Wells Fund Scholarship: Megan Barnes, Lindsey Black, Theodore Bobetsky, Jocelyn Brown-Saracino, Kristin Bukowski, Rebecca Carlson, Katrina Damkoehler, Mark LaPlante, Christina Lepore, Lauren Sibley, Travis Sinclair, Hillary Szteliga, James Trill, Melissa Zimmerman
Fred R. Whitcomb Scholarship: Rebecca Fellows
Lucy Wilder Memorial Humanitarian Award: Melissa Zimmerman
Todd Douglas Wood Award: Brett Wood

PLANNING BOARD

Activities for the year of 1999:

- The Planning Board revised the Flood Plain By-laws that were prepared and approved at Town Meeting, as required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), to make it possible for Northfield residents to obtain insurance on property within flood plains designated by FEMA.

- Applications for dividing land into more than one parcel were approved, as they did not come under the "subdivision control law".

- A Site plan was approved for Sandri Realty Inc, for the Sunoco Station at 41 Main Street.

- Gary Weiss is resigning at the end of his term in May 2000. His contributions to the Planning Board meetings were most helpful and appreciated.

- Our newest member, John Jurkowski, is taking an active part in our meetings and his willingness to accept responsibilities for attending outside meetings that are pertinent to the Board, is very helpful.

- The By-laws Table of Contents were improved.

- A joint meeting with the ZBA on "grandfathering & permitting" was very worthwhile for both Boards.

- We are planning to make improvements to the By-laws to make it easier for everyone to locate specific information, and improvements were made to the site plan application.

Respectfully submitted,

David P. Radebaugh
Chairman

POLICE DEPARTMENT

It is with pleasure that I submit my seventh Annual Report of the Northfield Police Department for the year 1999.

Grants obtained in 1999 from the Executive Office of Public Safety include a $6,000 award for the D.A.R.E. program. Officer Linda Shedd and I, continue to instruct our children about the dangers of drugs, alcohol, tobacco and violence. This program has been a successful partnership with the Northfield Elementary School, Linden Hill School, and P.V.R.S. In 1999, we were also awarded a $42,125 Community Policing grant. These funds support our bicycle patrols, radar patrols, other crime prevention programs and specialized training that would otherwise be unavailable to our officers.

In January 1999 we started our second Citizen Police Academy to provide citizens of Northfield an opportunity to learn about the Police Department, our officers, and the different tasks performed by the department. This was a great success, and we were pleased to graduate nine students.

Sweeping new changes in the Firearm Licensing Law have created a challenge for this department. In Northfield alone, we are anticipating 350 licenses to be issued during the fiscal year, July 1, 1999 – June 30, 2000. All current FIDs (Firearms Identification Cards) will expire on the birthday of the cardholder during this 12-month period. The time necessary to process each document in accordance with Massachusetts General Law is approximately 60 minutes and the turnaround time from processing to obtaining the permit is approximately 40 days.

The year 1999 has been a progressive year. Many thanks to everyone who has played an important role in our department. To the members of this agency, a sincere thank you for your continued dedication to the Police department and our community.

CRIME STATISTICS 1998/1999

Service Calls:	1998	1999
Alarms	95	89
Animals	78	69
Assist Fire Department	37	58
Assist Medical	95	106
Assist other PD	148	138
Assist Persons	91	89
F.I.D. Cards	14	35
Found Property	26	19
Pistol Permits	67	108
Respond PVRS	50	56
Respond NMHS	53	53
House Checks	100	132
General Service	427	444
911 Hang Ups	58	68
TRIAD Visits	n/a	11
TOTAL:	1339	1475

Police Ivestigations:	1998	1999
Annoying Calls	21	12
Arson	1	0
Attempted B & E	11	10
Assault & Battery	18	5
Breaking/Entering	23	12
Disturbances:		
a. Domestic	18	15
b. Neighbor	7	9
c. Disorderly Person	6	1
d. Noise	16	10
e. Juvenile	19	15
Larceny:		
a. Property	44	55
b. Bad Checks	8	10
Missing Persons	10	14
Rape	0	0
Sexual Assaults	0	2
Suspicious Persons	45	39

Vandalism	36	24
Weapons/Shots Fired	12	9
Miscellaneous	128	163
Attempted Suicide	0	2
Robbery	0	1
Bomb Threats	0	2
Unattended Death	0	2
TOTAL:	425	412

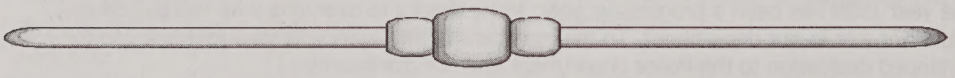
Money turned in to the Town from the Police Department:

From Fines	$22,148.00
Pistol Permits	2,625.00
F.I.D. Cards	875.00
Insurance Reports	185.00
Administrative Fees	726.00
TOTAL TO TOWN:	$26,559.00

Motor Vehicles:	**1998**	**1999**
M/V Accidents	72	72
M/V Disabled	89	113
M/V Fatal	0	2
M/V Leaving Scene	8	6
M/V Citations	600	547
M/V Warnings	900	748
M/V Neg. Oper.	48	48
M/V Suspicious	64	58
M/V Recov. Stolen	2	8
M/V Stolen	2	6
M/V Towed	102	84
M/V Complaints	51	38
TOTAL:	1938	1730

Department Arrests:	**1998**	**1999**
a. Adult	142	114
b. Juvenile	12	24
Type of Arrest:		
Assault & Battery	15	6
A&B Police Officer	0	0
A&B Dangerous Weapon	3	0
Breaking/Entering	3	4
CHINS Warrant	1	0
Disorderly Conduct	3	1
OUI	19	12
Larcenies	9	5
Property Damage	1	4
Possession of Drugs	16	34
Protective Custody	1	2
Rape/Attempted Rape	0	0
Sexual Assaults	0	1
Receiving Stolen Property	3	1
Suspended/Revoked License	33	13
Trespassing	10	13
Restraining Orders	0	1
Warrants	15	4
Weapon Violations	2	0
Other Arrests	20	37

Court:	**1998**	**1999**
Court Hours	328	411
D.A. Office	22	18
Investigations	13	20
Magistrate Hearings	160	119
Restraining Orders	35	23
Summonses	109	91



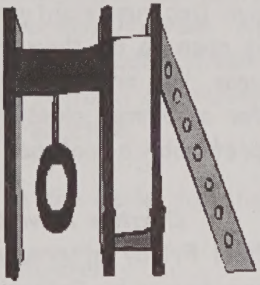
Thank you for allowing me to serve the residents of Northfield as Chief of Police. Remember if you need the police, contact Shelburne Control at 625-8200 or 911 in an emergency situation.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary M. Sibilia
Chief of Police

RECREATION COMMISSION

The goal of the Recreation Commission is to provide various recreational programs for all citizens of Northfield. The Commission has spent the year keeping annual programs up and running, rejuvenating defunct programs and planning and implementing new programs. As the Town of Northfield has very limited recreational facilities, we are beholden to Northfield Mount Hermon for the use of their pool, ice rink, playing fields, and tennis courts. This lack of facilities creates obstacles for the implementation of programs. The Commission, as well as the majority of all programming, is run by volunteers. One of our goals as a Commission is to make the programs fiscally self-supporting yet affordable.



We are asking the Town to create a paid Recreation Program Director position. This would ensure a continuity that has not been accomplished over the years by the Recreation Commission, which has a very high turnover rate compared to other committees. It would also ensure quality control of programming and more programming for all of our citizens.

The 1999 *Summer Playground Program* was held at Northfield Elementary for five weeks. It was a morning activity center for 90 Northfield children, ages five through twelve, coordinated by Amy Novak-Whiteman. Activities included crafts, cooking, sports, games, and excursions to the bowling alley and the Creamee. Katie Barry was the head councilor and six Northfield teens were employed as councilors - Amanda Otto, John Maguire, Kelly Shaw, Kelly Ives, Steve Bressett and Heather Maquire. The fee for this program was $55.00 per child for five weeks. The Playground Program accounts for a large part of our budget.

One hundred and fifteen Nfld children participated in the 1999 *Fall Soccer Program* from grades K-6 coordinated and directed by Kathy Galluzo. Kathy puts in an outstanding amount of time and effort. Northfield has the largest enrollment of the eight-town Recreation League. We thank the Baptist Church of Nfld for allowing us the use of field, gratis, and also to Steve Wiggin for keeping the field mowed. Our volunteer coaches were - Kathy Galluzo, Theresa Penniman, Ron Ducharme, Lynn Johnson, Everett Wickline, Andy Harrison, Kathy Malsch and Eric Brazeau. Thank you to all of the coaches and other volunteers who made this a successful

season. The soccer equipment and supplies totaled $769.00. Certificates, T-shirts, referees and trophies totaled $1,157.00. The fee to participate was $15.00.

Steve Wiggin and Gene L'Etoile donated services and materials to improve the Nfld Elementary School field. The field was thatched, raked, 10 yards of loam spread and graded, fertilized, limed and seeded. Thank you all who kept off of the field while the new grass was coming in. Gene L'Etoile has outlined a maintenance plan. Thank you Gene and Steve.

The *Winter Basketball Program* served 72 children from grades 3 - 6. The girls, grade 5/6 team, coached by Dave Loscius, won 2nd place at the Hinsdale tournament in February. Congratulations. Amy Novak-Whiteman spent many volunteer hours coordinating the program. Our volunteer coaches were - Eric Brazeau, Brian Bordner, Dave Loscius, Tim Seeley, Dan Ryan, Donny Stebbins, Matt Betsold, Dave Williams and Steve Bachinski. Thank you to all who made this possible. A fee of $15.00 per participant was collected which covered the cost of T-shirts, referees and tournament fee. As of this writing, $83.00 was left in the budget and is being used for the purchase of nets and basketballs.

John Lepore is in his 18th year offering *martial arts* training for anyone ages 7 and older on Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30 at the NES gymnasium. Membership for 4-week sessions averages 25 participants.

Step aerobics classes continued to be offered by Deb Porlier on Tuesday and Thursday at NES at 7:20 p.m. Deb runs eight-week sessions and is open to all throughout the school year. We are searching for a space for a summer class at this writing - preferably a cool one.

Creative Movement classes are held Friday afternoons at NES and are taught by Catherine McGarty for all grade school children. Ms. McGarty also leads an adult yoga class on Monday evenings at NES at 6:00 p.m. Sessions are eight weeks.

Family Swim and *Lap Swim* will hopefully be ongoing, due to the generosity of NMH, throughout the fall, winter and spring at Meany Pool. The pool times are posted on the local cable channel, the Community Newsletter and on flyers around town. Minimal fees are collected to pay for the lifeguards. Thank you to all "Facility Sitters". NMH does not charge the Town for pool time. They do charge $60.00 for

the skating rink because of the need for the Zamboni. We rented the ice rink three evenings for an open skate in February and paid $180.00 to NMH.

Men's Open Basketball takes place Friday evenings at NES.

Volleyballs and floor mats were purchased for the Elementary school at a cost of $670.90.

We are developing a *Community Service Fee Reduction Program.* At this writing we have four citizens participating who perform community service for a fee reduction.

Programs in the works for the near future are:

- Teen summer theater
- Puppet making classes
- Adult softball
- Swimming lessons

Citizen participation and volunteers keep our programs alive. We would like your input, especially if you can help out in any small way.

Again, thank you to all of you who have volunteered throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Taricano, Chair
Laurie Leese, Secretary
David Jurkowski, Treasurer
Guy Neumann
Gene Leonard
Linda Peck

SELECTBOARD REPORT

Northfield ended the millennium on a sound financial footing and laid the groundwork for several projects which will address space and accessibility problems in the Town Hall, study the pay scales of employees, develop design ideas for our town common and site the Veterans Monument. A lower tax rate from the re-evaluation of Northfield Mountain Project partially offset increased taxes necessary to fund the renovation and expansion of Pioneer Valley Regional High School which began with a groundbreaking ceremony early in November. The Town's Y2K transition went smoothly with no need to open the town hall shelter and no breakdown in services.

Thanks to our dedicated and hardworking staff at the Town Hall and in our EMT, Fire, Library, Police, Highway, and Sewer Departments for providing outstanding service throughout the year. These workers are the connection between the residents and the town government and are vital to keep the town running smoothly. To ensure that our salaries are on a par with surrounding towns, we hired Massachusetts Municipal Consulting Group to prepare a salary survey and upgrade job descriptions for town employees. At the same time we continue to look for ways to provide support for the volunteers who manage our boards and committees.

At the end of the year we bid farewell to our Town Secretary of 26 years, Shirley Thompson. Shirleys' 'municipal memory' will be sorely missed. We welcome our new Town Secretary, Cherrie Smart, to the 'hot seat', the busiest office in Town Hall. A

new position funded this year is Town Maintenance Person. Bob Beck came on board in November, developed a list of projects and began some long-delayed maintenance work in town buildings.

As voted at Town Meeting in May we have embarked on a feasibility study to address space needs and handicap accessibility projects in the Town Hall. Space is at a premium in the Town Hall as we juggle offices and meeting rooms to accommodate the expanding needs of both volunteer boards and town employees while ensuring access to town functions. At long last we completed two overdue projects required by the federal disability laws, the Architectural Accessibility Evaluation Report and the Americans for Disability Act Transition Plan for town buildings. Meanwhile, we made some immediate changes at the Town Hall Building by installing bottled water in the main lobby, painting the public hallways by prisoners from the Franklin County Jail, and switching to a less expensive rubbish contract with Martin's Farm, a company that removes all the paper for composting.

Northfield was one of 24 towns selected by the state Department of Environmental Management to participate in the Town Common Initiative Program. This grant will provide designers to work with the town to develop options to improve our Main Street linear town common. In 1997 the town's application for the Town Common Grant was denied. Because so many towns requested funding for a limited amount of money, the state decided to provide money for the expensive design services that were lacking in these applications. As a result, Northfield will have an opportunity to create some options with professional help. Unfortunately our 1999 MIG grant application to identify areas that would be suitable for light commercial and industrial use was turned down after a shortened review process with the delayed state budget. We will submit the grant again in 2000.

Beavers and bridges – both subjects seemed to have a permanent place on our agendas. Reports of beaver damage increased this year after passage of new state laws that severely limited trapping and caused the beaver population to explode. Now beavers are encroaching into new territory. In Northfield beavers have caused well and road damage, giardia infestations, and tree damage. The Selectboard provided information and help by developing a fact sheet that outlined procedures for beaver control and hosting a public meeting with the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Northfield bridges continue to deteriorate due to a lack of funding on both the state and federal level. The Mass. Highway Dept. held a public hearing on design for the Birnam Road Bridge (federal funds) over the Mill River. Strowbridge Road Bridge over the Mill River, already slated for reconstruction with state funds, was further damaged by Hurricane Floyd in September, as was the Four Mile Road Bridge. Chapter 90 monies for road and bridge repair are being diverted to the "Big Dig" in Boston. Throughout the year we have supported efforts by Franklin Regional Council of Governments to work with legislators to address these concerns.

After much discussion and study, the Northfield Historical Society voted in the fall to remain in the town-owned Pine St. School building and to ask the town to turn the building over to the Society. The Selectboard voted to support the request and scheduled a town meeting for a formal vote as the first step.

The world of technology arrived in Northfield this year with the application of Sprint to build a telecommunications tower on town land at the Transfer Station in West Northfield. After the required Request for Proposal was developed, one company, SBA Communications submitted a proposal.

The Selectboard is negotiating the contract with SBA, a process that is independent from the permitting process with ZBA and Planning Board.

After several years of gathering names and studying designs, the Veterans Committee is now entering the final research phase for the new Veterans Monument to honor Northfield citizens who fought in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and other conflicts.

The Great Northfield Barbecue brought the town together on Labor Day weekend for entertainment and games, delicious food, an early worship service, and an opportunity for town groups to publicize their projects and raise money. Thanks to Northfield Mountain Recreation Project for hosting the event.

A town the size of Northfield depends heavily on dedicated volunteers to staff our boards and committees. The Selectboard deeply appreciates their willingness to come forward to serve on regular town boards and to work on the many projects that tackle short-term issues. If you are interested in helping, fill out our Citizen Volunteer Form available at the Town Hall or Town Meeting or call the Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanne McGee, Chair
Richard Taferner
Ronald Reid

SEWER COMMISSION

The Board of Sewer Commissioners set the user rate at $270.75 per unit for the fiscal year 1999/2000. The Sewer Department was eligible for state money through the Sewer Rate Relief Fund and received approximately $17,778.20, which is based on our loan debt. This money is only used to reduce the rate.

We have had many improvements to the plant so far this year, including:

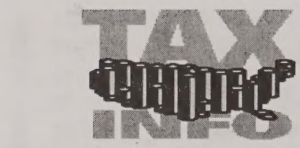
- ✓ Painted the outside of the plant
- ✓ Fixed all of the original hand rails & painted them
- ✓ Fixed all the cracks in the concrete in the plant
- ✓ Replaced the original flow meter with a more up to date meter.
- ✓ Found and raised two buried manholes, which were covered up when new pavement was laid

Again, we have increased more of our spare parts inventory.

In 1999, we had four new sewer hook-ups added to our plant, and we expect to have more in 2000. Again the Board would like to acknowledge our Chief Operator, Jack Patch for another outstanding job throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan A. Gray, Chair
Gary Sibilia
Everett Wickline



Tax Collector's Report

7/1/88 – 6/30/89

Real Estate

1999 Committed		2,380,807.12	
Refunds		4,658.59	
	Collected		2,292,530.26
	Abated		20,108.19
	Tax Title		5,780.72
	Balance 6/30/99		67,046.54
1998 Outstanding 7/1/98		78,196.46	
Refunds		39.24	
	Collected		57,984.87
	Tax Title		6,520.50
	Uncollected		13,730.33
1997 Outstanding 7/1/98		27,797.50	
	Collected		27,664.80
	Uncollected		132.70
1996 Outstanding 7/1/98		197.34	
	Collected		197.34

Personal Property

1999 Committed		336,425.92	
Refund		24.60	
	Collected		335,819.98
	Uncollected		630.54
1998 Outstanding 7/1/98		568.30	
	Collected		345.87
	Uncollected		222.43
1997 Outstanding 7/1/98		226.12	
	Collected		95.00
	Uncollected		131.12
1996 Outstanding 7/1/98		207.11	
	Uncollected		207.11
1995 Outstanding 7/1/98		151.31	
	Uncollected		151.31
1994 Outstanding 7/1/98		37.66	
	Uncollected		37.66
1993 Outstanding 7/1/98		37.21	
	Uncollected		37.21
1992 Outstanding 7/1/98		34.29	
	Uncollected		34.29
1991 Outstanding 7/1/98		43.10	
	Uncollected		43.10
1990 Outstanding 7/1/98		40.46	
	Uncollected		40.46

Farm Animal

1998 Committed		3,823.83	
	Collected		3,796.75
	Uncollected		27.08
1997 Outstanding 7/1/98		278.59	
	Uncollected		278.59
1996 Outstanding 7/1/98		216.00	
	Collected		107.87
	Uncollected		108.13
1995 Outstanding 7/1/98		116.85	
	Collected		116.85

Motor Vehicle

1999 Committed		194,727.63	
Refunds		1,662.37	
	Collected		175,126.14
	Abated		4,188.82
	Uncollected		17,075.04
1998 Outstanding 7/1/98		26,043.54	
Committed		32,678.90	
Refunds		2,475.79	
	Collected		53,626.10
	Abated		3,423.82
	Uncollected		4,148.31
1997 Outstanding 7/1/98		3,992.65	
Committed		380.00	
Refunds		424.37	
	Collected		2,100.44
	Abated		546.25
	Uncollected		2,150.33
1996 Outstanding 7/1/98		2,470.41	
	Collected		1,411.66
	Uncollected		1,058.75
1995 Outstanding 7/1/98		2,366.93	
	Collected		709.33
	Uncollected		1,657.60
1994 Outstanding 7/1/98		1,130.72	
	Collected		519.59
	Uncollected	611.13	
1993 Outstanding 7/1/98		642.15	
	Collected		43.75
	Uncollected		598.40
1992 Outstanding 7/1/98		684.88	
	Collected		117.92
	Uncollected		566.96
1991 Outstanding 7/1/98		580.83	
	Collected		16.25
	Abated		30.00
	Uncollected		534.58
1990 Outstanding 7/1/98		920.78	
	Collected		11.25
	Abated		95.00
	Uncollected		814.53
1989 Outstanding 7/1/98		997.68	
	Collected		79.38
	Abated		73.34
	Uncollected		844.96

Boat Excise

1998 Committed		1,105.00	
Refunds		195.00	
	Abated		240.00
	Collected		950.00
	Uncollected		110.00
1987 Outstanding 7/1/98		70.00	
	Collected		70.00
1996 Outstanding 7/1/98		10.00	
	Uncollected		10.00

Sewer Use

1998 Committed		130,786.46	
Refunds		270.28	
	Collected		128,726.32
	Uncollected		2,330.42
1997 Outstanding 7/1/98		1,996.72	
Comm. Interest		279.52	

	Collected		1,707.18
	Uncollected		569.06
1996 Outstanding 7/1/98		791.31	
	Collected		263.77
	Uncollected		527.54

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara B. Brassor
Tax Collector

TOWN CLERK

This, as always, has been a busy year in the Town Clerk's office. The population of the Town of Northfield has been increasing. There is a need to address new concerns for the Town Clerk's office in the future. I will be retiring as Town Clerk in May 2000. Many of the most important needed changes have been addressed, but as always there are ongoing concerns.

I am recommending that the Town increase the Town Clerks hours to twenty-four hours a week. This will allow the office to be open to the public for more hours and will give added convenience in access to the office. It is no longer feasible to only have twelve hours of public access to this office.

Our records preservation program is continuing, and the preservation of our Vital records books are nearly complete. One book remains to be sent for preservation. That book will be sent as funds are voted in the coming year. That will complete the records preservation program that I began ten years ago. This has been a project of vital necessity to the Townspeople, as the preservation of our historic records was a major concern. I am very grateful to the citizens of Northfield for their concern about this and their willingness to vote the necessary funds each year for the preservation program.

In addition to increased hours in the office in the future, other changes must be met. There is a need for increased vault space for the care of records. The Northfield vault has been in use since the Town Hall was built in 1927 and is no longer adequate to meet modern needs. As Town Hall needs are addressed, new vault space must be taken into consideration.

The following is the Town Clerk's report for 1999. It is extremely important that our vital records be complete and accurate. If any omissions or errors are discovered, please report them immediately to the Town Clerk.

Births
1999

Date	*Name*	*Parents*
Jan 29	Elizabeth Love NIcholson	Bradley & Katherine Nicholson
Feb 5	Joshua James Baker	Philip & Deanna Baker
Feb 9	Tucker Daniel Llewelyn	Daniel & Holly Llewelyn

March 13	Jillian Marie Selanis	Gary & Kathleen Selanis
March 29	Elizabeth Violette Sweeney	Christopher & Suzanne Sweeney
April 19	Aidan Daniel Hogan	William & Janice Hogan
April 27	Terrell Owen Hicks	Stephen & Susan Hicks
May 30	Isaiah Joseph Edmonds Hug	William & Kim Edmonds Hug
June 1	Mariya Vdovichenko	Anatoli & Yelena Vdovichenko
June 12	Anthony Joseph Robie	Paul & Nancy Robie
June 14	Rachel Louise Shearer	Edward & Tracy Norman Shearer
June 14	Logan Marie Anderson	Kevin & Christina Anderson
June 15	Nicholas James Gamlin-Lacoy	Donald & Maureen Gamlin Lacoy
June 15	Brieann Aurelie Smith	Allen & Kathy Smith
July 14	Drew Richard Smith	Richard & Tina Smith
July 16	Daisy Katelyn Osowski	John & Deborah Osowski
Aug 18	Karl James Wheeler	Larry & Cheri Wheeler
Aug 27	Jessica Elizabeth Scoville	Michael & Andrea Scoville
Aug 30	Isaac Benjamin Egan	Daniel & Kimberly Egan
Oct 16	Jordan Dwyer Platek	Jason & Jill-Anne Platek
Oct 29	Jared Andrew Ackerman	Andrew & Trudi Ackerman
Nov 12	Gabrielle Rose Rooks	Christopher & Michelle Rooks
Nov 14	Rebekah Anne Goodwin	Eric & Kelly Anne Goodwin
Dec 10	Alyksandr Merritt Kostecki	Philip & Catherine Kostecki
Dec 29	Dalton Robert Rice	Eugene & Monique Rice

Marriages
1999

Date	*Name & Residence*	*Place of Marriage*
May 14	Donald Leo Plamondon, Northfield MA Janine A. Graves, Northfield MA	Northfield, MA
May 29	Glenn Robert Belliveau, Greenfield MA Heather Jean Hebert, Greenfield MA	Northfield, MA

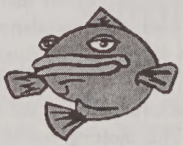
July 3	Rob Matthew Shulda, Northfield MA Robin Sue Kennedy, Northfield MA	Buckland, MA
July 10	James E. Beaman, Winchester NH Jacqueline Lisa Walker, Winchester NH	Northfield, MA
July 24	Rodney C. Johnson, Sr., Putney VT Deborah L. Mecheski, Northfield MA	Northfield, MA Northfield, MA
Aug 1	Paul Richard Nicolson, Northfield MA Kristi Nicole Brozo, Northfield MA	Northfield, MA
Sept 4	Jay Kevin Nelson, Northfield MA Teresa Marie Hutchinson, Greenfield MA	Montague, MA
Sept 11	Edward Phillip Willey, Jr., Northfield MA Dawn Marie Williams, Northfield MA	Warwick, MA
Oct 9	Mark Daniel Fortier, Northfield MA Jill Elaine Shippa, Northfield MA	Northfield, MA

Deaths
1999

Date	*Name*	*Date of Birth*	*Age*
Jan 13	Marie E. Dowd	May 14, 1911	87
Jan 17	Frederick J. Billiel	November 26, 1927	71
Jan 30	Ida E. Maynard	August 13, 1914	84
Feb 3	Robert C. Rubenstein	June 5, 1948	50
Feb 10	Sylvia Glover Wood	December 8, 1907	91
Feb 21	Annette B. Gallant	June 17, 1909	89
Mar 14	Gilbert S. Hammond	March 18, 1921	77
Mar 16	Evangeline C. Cook	August 6, 1904	94
Mar 20	Irene L. Thompson	October 11, 1915	83
Mar 26	Doris M. Clough	February 1, 1912	87
Mar 29	Howard B. Skinner	February 20, 1913	86
Mar 31	Gordon E. Derrig	August 26, 1927	71

Apr 4	Ida E. Pyper	March 7, 1905	94
Apr 4	Sandra J. Williams	September 3, 1952	46
Apr 11	Murray M. Brown	May 9, 1905	93
June 3	Marjorie M. Coller	August 2, 1917	81
June 12	Phebe E. Henry	April 5, 1927	72
June 20	Mary E. Phillips	January 19, 1914	85
June 26	Gertrude F. Firtion	August 2, 1915	83
July 17	Joanne W. Havens	July 16, 1940	59
July 29	Lillian O. Mirtz	May 14, 1907	92
Aug 15	Edith P. Brooks	August 24, 1911	87
Aug 25	Beatrice E. Brown	April 20, 1921	78
Sept 12	William Harold Kennedy	July 3, 1933	66
Sept 15	Frederick E. Varney	April 22, 1917	82
Oct 2	Marguerite V. DeMaria	August 16, 1923	76
Oct 2	Shirley May Fisher	June 17, 1932	67
Oct 15	Alfreda Clough	April 18, 1923	76
Oct 27	Harold F. Deane Jr.	October 9, 1954	45
Oct 27	William W. Lee Sr.	May 10, 1954	45
Oct 29	Ruth Mary McCassie	February 27, 1916	83
Nov 10	Ethel B. Coy	April 14, 1919	80
Nov 13	Isabel E. Carter	October 12, 1908	91
Nov 17	Frank S. Fuller	March 23, 1911	88
Nov 28	Forrest O. Phelps	September 1, 1911	88
Dec 27	Florence H. Walker	September 14, 1914	85

Fish & Game
1999



Resident Fishing	17
Resident Fishing Minor	1
Resident Fishing, Age 65-69	3
Resident Fishing Handicapped	6
Non-Resident Fishing	6
Non-Resident Fishing - 3-day	1
Resident Fishing - 3-day	0
Non-Resident Minor Fishing	0
Resident Trapping	0
Resident Trapping Minor	0
Resident Trapping, Age 65-69	0
Duplicate Fishing	0
Duplicate Trapping	0
Resident Citizen Hunting	8
Resident Hunting, Age 65-69	2
Resident Hunting Paraplegic	0
Resident Alien Hunting	0
Non-Resident Hunting - Big Game	3

Non-Resident Hunting - Small Game	5
Resident Citizen Minor Hunting	0
Resident Sporting	17
Resident Sporting, Age 65-69	5
Resident Citizen Sporting, Age Over 70	17
Duplicate Hunting	1
Duplicate Sporting	0
Archery Stamps	8
Waterfowl Stamps	8
Primitive Firearms Stamps	16
Wildlife Cons. Stamp Resident	54
Wildlife Cons. Stamp Non-Res.	14

Dog Licenses
1999

Male dogs	173
Female dogs	17
Spayed female dogs	18
Kennel (four dogs) 10.00	18
Kennel (ten dogs) 25.00	6
Kennel (+ ten dogs) 50.00	2
Late fees & fines collected	275

Respectfully submitted,

Mary C. Taferner
Town Clerk

Town Government Study Committee Final Report

PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE

At the May 1998 Annual Town Meeting, the Town voted to form a committee to review and evaluate the current operation of Town government for possible changes that would increase the efficiency of and improve the operation of Town government, and to report their recommendations to the Selectboard prior to the closing of the warrant for the next Annual Town Meeting. In August, 1998, the Selectboard appointed Mary Metcalf, Thomas Shearer, John Spanbauer, Lisa White and Carolyn Olsen to a committee to study the current operation of the town government in accordance with the town meeting vote. A first meeting of the Committee was held on October 1, 1998. This meeting was facilitated by the Selectboard appointed liaison, Joanne McGee.

Many town governments initiate town government study committees to review and assess how well the current structure of government meets community needs. Questions our town government study committee were encouraged to consider were ways to improve the efficiency of town government, and specifically, if currently elected positions such as the Town Clerk, Tax Collector, and Treasurer should be made appointed positions; if the Selectboard should be increased from three to five members; and if term limits

should be placed on appointed positions. The town government study committee gathered information from surveys and additional resource materials to study these questions.

INTERIM RECOMMENDATIONS

In December, the government study committee met with the Selectboard to make three short term recommendations. The short term recommendations were as follows:

1. Institute Job Descriptions for all professional positions, elected positions and all boards and committees (general description of function and duties). Instituting job descriptions will clarify roles and responsibilities of town employees and officials, explain relationships of key officials, provide an evaluative tool for measuring performance for both position-holder and evaluator. The re-establishment of a clearly defined job description of the Administrative Assistant position is critical to the success of this position.

2. Survey opinions on how government is/is not working involving dept. heads, key elected and appointed positions, committees and boards, key committee/board past and general public. Survey will seek input on a wide range of issues. A draft survey is being developed and reviewed by our committee that will be distributed. Will use other media (such as the Northfield Community Newsletter) to invite input from the general public.

3. Continue and improve outreach initiatives: directories, use of media (newsletter, cable, newspaper) to encourage public involvement in town governance. Brainstorm ideas such as feature articles (as in early editions about roles and responsibilities of different boards and committees) use job descriptions, better signage in town hall, publication of a town directory, etc.

Additionally, the committee requested an extension of the earlier proposed deadline in order to continue study and evaluation on the questions of expanding the Selectboard from 3 to 5 members and whether the Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Treasurer positions should change from elected to appointed. The extension was granted and the short-term recommendations were well received. The concept of term limits was discussed and removed from further study.

At the December meeting, the government study committee learned that the town was already undertaking, or in the planning stages, of a number of initiatives that were in agreement with these short-term recommendations. The town had earlier surveyed committees and employees to ascertain any ways that communication could be improved, had made some improvements in signage, and was in the process of planning to conduct a salary survey and to develop job descriptions for all town employees.

SURVEY/QUESTIONNAIRE

To build on the information received from the town communication survey that was earlier conducted, the government study committee completed a survey to assess the current opinions of Northfield town government. The government study's survey was distributed to all major town boards, commissions, officials and past Selectboard members. It was intended to solicit the following information:

1. Are the duties of your board sufficiently clear and defined?
2. Do vacancies or irregular attendance at meetings cause problems?
3. Are there overlapping or sharing of duties with other boards?
4. Are increasing regulations or paperwork affecting completion of the board's duties?
5. Are there specific ongoing problems that are not being addressed?
6. Are there suggestions for improvements?
7. Are there any other general comments?

A copy of the survey questionnaire and results are included in Appendix A.

In addition to the survey questionnaire the Town Government Study Committee submitted an article to the Northfield Community Newsletter. This article solicited comments from town residents. One resident responded with comments.

The response to the survey was good. The following boards/officials returned the survey questionnaires:

- Selectboard members - past and present
- Administrative Assistant
- Planning Board
- Finance Committee
- Board of Assessors
- Conservation Commission
- Town Clerk
- Town Secretary
- Police Department
- Fire Department
- Town Accountant
- Historical Commission
- Building Commission
- Dog Officer
- Pioneer Valley Regional School District Committee
- Board of Trustees of Dickinson Memorial Library
- Fred Wells Trust
- Dog Officer
- Council on Aging
- Graves Officer

The results of the survey did not reveal any acute problems or shortcomings in Northfield's town government. However, there were some concerns expressed in the responses. The following paragraphs summarize the major concerns.

*Responses from the Conservation Commission, the Historical Commission and the Board of Trustees of the Dickinson Memorial Library indicated problems with vacancies or irregular meeting attendance.

*Workload concerns were voiced by the Building Inspector, the Town Clerk and the Conservation Commission. The Building Inspector and the Town Clerk indicated that the workload is difficult to complete within the allotted hours (18 and 12 hours respectively). The Conservation Commission expressed a need for clerical help.

*New regulations and increased paperwork requirements were not seen as a problem except in the Town Clerk's office.

*The responses from past and present Selectboard members generally contained the most feedback regarding ongoing concerns and problems. Eight responses were received from this group. Some of the common comments received from past Selectboard members were:

1. Selectboard needs to delegate more.
2. There is too much micro-management by the Selectboard.
3. There is not enough time for planning. The board is reactive instead of proactive.
4. The duties of the Administrative Assistant are not clearly defined. This position should be more than a clerical position.
5. There is a need for open communication (to town residents and among town boards).

Additional comments were received from many of the respondents. However, if they did not appear in more than one response they are not listed in this narrative. The returned, completed survey questionnaires are contained in Appendix A.

EXPANSION OF THE SELECTBOARD FROM 3 TO 5 MEMBERS

One of the major issues the Committee was asked to evaluate was expansion of the Selectboard to 5 members. This issue was motivated by the large workloads experienced by the current and previous Selectboards. Review of this issue was performed by contacting other small towns with 5 member Selectboards. The Committee contacted 11 towns with 5 member boards and populations below 8,500 (Northfield's population is about 2,900.) Representatives of these towns were asked about the effectiveness of the 5 member boards. Responses included the following observations (responses are fully reported in Appendix B):

Items in favor of 3 or 5 MEMBER SELECTBOARDS:

3 Members

1. Lack of candidates or competitive elections for 5 positions due to small population.
2. Town employees have 3 "bosses" instead of 5.
3. Lack of candidates may result in the election of marginal selectmen.
4. Added members may complicate the discussion and decision process.

5 Members

1. Workload is distributed over 5 members.
2. Distributed workload allows other townspeople to run for office who would otherwise not have time.
3. Allows for wider representation of townspeople.
4. Promotes new ideas and perspectives.
5. Absences have less impact on town business.
6. 5 members dilute the impact of any one member.

The issue of increasing the Selectboard to 5 members was discussed in light of the survey responses, the current structure of Northfield town government, the experience of other towns and other town government study reports. Only 2 towns in the Commonwealth with populations similar or less than Northfield's have 5 Selectmen. The experiences of those 2 towns were mixed, but generally favorable. Northfield has recently experienced difficulty in attracting candidates for election, and though part of the argument for 5 members is that it spreads responsibility and therefore may actually make the commitment more attractive to more committee members, the committee questioned whether having five members is currently attainable.

The surveys indicated that current and past Selectboard members that responded did think that there was a workload problem for the Northfield Board of Selectmen. Several responses indicated the opinion that Selectboard efficiency could be improved if the Administrative Assistant position were better utilized by having clearly delegated responsibility for carrying out the day to day administrative responsibilities of the town. Several town government studies reviewed also recommended the administration of town policies be clearly delegated to the administrative staff person responsible for the day to day management of the town, which allows the Selectboard to concentrate energies on their role as civic leaders and policy makers.

After considering these issues, the Northfield Town Government Study Committee voted against a proposed increase of the Selectboard to 5 members. Instead, the Committee voted to recommend that the Selectboard consider how efficiency within the current 3 member board might be improved if the decision making associated with the administration of town policies were more clearly delegated to the Administrative Assistant. Northfield is fortunate to have a well-qualified professional Administrative Assistant who is performing ably in her position. As the town is currently in process of developing a job description for the Administrative Assistant position, our committee recommends that the job description that is developed clearly identify the position's responsibilities for carrying out the policies and directives of the Selectboard.

Many towns in the Commonwealth have moved in the direction of further establishing professional management responsibilities in an Executive Secretary or Town Administrator position. This is a structure that the Town of Northfield previously considered and favorably recommended (please see report of the Town Manager/Executive Secretary Study Committee and information regarding processes for establishing such a position in Appendix C).

ELECTED vs. APPOINTED POSITIONS

Massachusetts General Law Chapter 41, Section 1A, codified from law enacted in November of 1997, outlines the process for converting elected officers or boards with the exception of the selectmen and the school committee to appointed positions. Where before 1997, the law required that special legislation be filed to complete the process of conversion from elected to appointed, the law now requires a majority vote at town meeting and a majority vote at the annual election for each appointment. A full explanation of the law is provided in the Department of Revenue Bulletin of December 1997 with the subject heading "Changing Boards or Officers from Elected to Appointed" (see Appendix D).

In order to study the question of whether Northfield should consider converting from the positions of Town Clerk, Treasurer and Collector from elected to appointed positions, the Government study Committee met with current officials in these positions. The committee also surveyed comparable communities to learn from them if they had made this change, and also reviewed reports from other government study committees regarding the question. From the information gathered, a listing of pros and cons was compiled.

The job duties and responsibilities of these positions have become more complex in recent years. Additionally, the Town traditionally has not funded these positions as being professional, but has depended on town residents to fill the position at below-market salaries.

Items in favor of Elected or Appointed:

Elected

1. By having these positions be appointed, there is greater accountability to the voters. This spreads the "power" so that there are more than 3 people making town-wide decisions. Appointed staff could be pressured into inappropriate behavior by less-than-ideal selectmen.

2. Knowledge of the town and its residents would obviously be helpful in all positions.

3. These positions are traditionally elected, and that the town currently has good, qualified incumbents.

4. In the future, there may not be an adequate pool of qualified residents for the job, particularly if the

positions are maintained at below competitive salaries

5. If it's working, don't change it.

6. Town Clerk - As the chief election official, the person holding the position needs to be impartial.

Appointed

1. As appointed officials, these positions would be under the supervision of the Board of Selectmen. This allows equitable treatment among employees regarding both oversight and benefits. There is no local oversight of elected officials outside of the ballot box.

2. It would be possible to word the job requirements so that such knowledge would be advantageous, but it should not overshadow the technical abilities required by the positions.

3. Appointing these positions does not mean we would lose those incumbents not currently paid as professionals.

4. The risk of misconduct is equal in both elected and appointed individuals. The difference is that misconduct by an appointee is more easily found and disciplined than misconduct by an elected official.

5. Should a problem arise with an elected official in one of these positions, it may be a rather lengthy process to make a change at that time. It seems much cleaner and easier to make the change while everything is working smoothly.

In order to make the change from elected to appointed, the town must vote to make the change at a town meeting, and then the item must appear on the annual election ballot. (If the town meeting vote is at a special town meeting, then that meeting must take place at least 60 days prior to the annual election.) If a position is converted by these means, the incumbent shall continue to hold the office and to perform its duties until (a) the expiration of the term for which the individual was elected, or (b) the appointment of another person to the office, whichever is later (see Appendix D for more information).

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The survey/questionnaire did not reveal any major concerns regarding the operations of Northfield town government other than those discussed at the establishment of the committee. Consequently, the committee decided not to broaden its original scope of work.

Expansion of the membership of the Board of Selectmen to 5 members is not recommended. The surveys did confirm that workload is a problem for the Board. However, because of the small population of Northfield and the lack of competitive elections recently, the committee voted to recommend keeping a three member board. Instead, the committee suggests the Selectboard consider if greater delegation to the Administrative Assistant could relieve the board members from administrative responsibility and enhance their role as policy makers, allowing them to reduce the scope of their involvement in some areas when there is a workload problem.

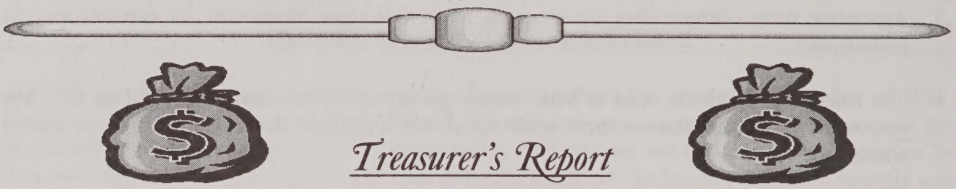
The changing of the Town Clerk, Tax Collector and the Town Treasurer from elected to appointed positions prompted the greatest amount of discussion. The committee recognizes the increased professional requirements of these positions. However, by a majority vote the committee recommends that these positions remain elected. The current office holders are performing a good job and they demonstrate that selection by election can work well. If, in the future, individuals are elected to these positions and cannot maintain the current level of professionalism, the Town may wish to reevaluate the elected nature of these positions.

The government study committee has worked over the course of the year to study these questions on behalf of the town. During the year, one appointed member of the committee, Mary Metcalf, moved from the town. Though she was not a participant in the final votes of recommendation, Mary's contributions to the committees work were significant and should be recognized here. The committee members would like to thank all of the town officials and residents who took the time to talk with us and inform us about our work.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa White, Chair
Carolyn Olsen
Thomas Shearer
John Spanbauer

The full report of the Government Study Committee, with appendices, is available in the town hall.



Treasurer's Report

7/1/98 – 6/30/99

GENERAL ACCOUNT

GREENFIELD CO-OPERATIVE BANK

Balance per statement 6/30/99	980044.81	
Deposits in transit	29385.70	
Outstanding checks	68100.86	
Balance per checkbook		941329.65

GENERAL INVESTMENT

Mass. Muni. Depos. Trust		193774.35
State Street Bank & Trust		280883.91

INTEREST EARNED – GENERAL

Mass. Muni. Depos. Trust	5617.84	
State Street Bank & Trust	7104.94	
Greenfield Co-operative	26909.88	

EOCD REHAB. PROGRAM

Balance 7/1/98	203446.82	
Interest earned	4312.27	
Payments	28869.09	
Balance transferred to Gen. Fund		178890.00

EOCD INVESTMENT

Mass. Muni. Depos. Trust		account closed

STABILIZATION FUND

Balance 7/1/98	186634.07	
Interest earned	9506.29	
Deposit in transit	60000.00	
Balance 6/30/99		256140.36

STABILIZATION INVESTMENT

Mass. Muni. Depos. Trust		196140.36

ARTS COUNCIL

Balance 7/1/98	4031.50	
Receipts	3300.00	
Interest earned	62.29	
Payments per warrant	3391.00	
Balance 6/30/99		4002.79

GREENFIELD CO-OPERATIVE BANK

Bankbook balance		4002.79

AERIAL LADDER

Balance 7/1/98	5210.08	
Interest earned	118.45	
Balance 7/1/99		5328.53

GREENFIELD CO-OPERATIVE BANK

Bankbook balance		5328.53

DICKINSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY BUILDING FUND

Balance 7/1/98	108.81	
Interest earned	0.98	
Transferred to trust funds	109.79	
Balance 7/1/99		0.00

GREENFIELD CO-OPERATIVE BANK

Bankbook balance		account closed

TECHNICAL FEE ACCOUNT

Balance 7/1/98	893.29	
Interest earned	20.31	
Balance 6/30/99		913.60

GREENFIELD CO-OPERATIVE BANK
Bankbook balance
913.60

RECREATION COMMISSION

Balance 7/1/98	4116.01	
Receipts	26601.80	
Interest earned	44.78	
Payments per warrant	23501.01	
Balance 6/30/99		7261.58

GREENFIELD CO-OPERATIVE BANK

Balance per statement	7286.58	
Outstanding checks	25.00	
Balance per checkbook		7261.58

TRUST FUNDS	*Balance*	*Interest*	*Int. to Treas.*	*Deposits*	*Withdrawals*	*Balance 6/30/99*
LIBRARY						
C. Ina Merriman	1471.22	56.62				1527.84
Belcher Funds	12323.48	471.96				12795.44
Chas. Dickinson	3706.77	141.95				3848.72
Maude Montague	2638.73	101.07				2739.80
Marina Stanley	706.67	25.97			62.71	669.93
Richard G. Holton	672.82	25.78				698.60
Nfld. Chap. DAR	134.70	5.16				139.86
Ethel Jackson	1053.11	38.26			69.11	1022.26
Paul Bowman	78909.05	3536.63			4430.12	78015.56
Giles Mem. Fund	2325.88	89.07				2414.95
McGowan Mem. Fund	8127.00	313.15		200.00		8640.15
Dickinson Lib. Bldg.	0.00	3.08		1109.79		1112.87
CHARITY						
Starkweather	39587.11	1516.07				41103.18
George Morgan	14464.41	541.03			700.00	14305.44
Elisha Alexander	12175.48	466.27				12641.75
Lottie Evans	6910.23	264.63				7174.86
Roselle Evans	2790.44	106.87				2897.31
SCHOOL						
Belcher Center	2750.14	105.32				2855.46
Surplus Rev. Fund	2177.59	83.40				2260.99
PRESERVATION HISTORICAL MARKERS						
Willis K. Parker	1571.04	60.17				1631.21
BEAUTIFY MAIN STREET						
Ethel Jackson	1634.44	62.60				1697.04
MARTHA ALEXANDER FUND						
Greenfield Savings	45130.54	2398.13				47528.67
Greenfield Co-op.	1889.97	24.56		1484.52	1500.00	1899.05
Greenfield Co-op.	28811.29		1484.52	1500.00		30311.29
CEMETERIES						
Center	36118.09	1355.73			1386.00	36087.82
West Northfield	16559.92	615.40		750.00	1424.00	16501.32
Pentecost	2724.00	113.27		625.00	146.00	3316.27
Northfield Farms	12868.28	475.51			836.00	12507.79
Mt. Hermon	9480.20	361.25		125.00	136.00	9830.45
So Mountain	131.82	5.06				136.88
TERCENTENARY COMMITTEE						
BankBoston	748.11	28.65				776.76

TREE WARDEN

Trees were removed and two days were spent, with the assistance of J & L Tree Company, removing broken and/or hanging limbs around town.

Strong winds caused trees in the Highland Avenue area to come down and the broken branches were trimmed.

The flood (Floyd's) winds brought down trees and many limbs that required removal of trees and brush.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. "Mike" Gibson
Tree Warden

ZONING BOARD

The Zoning Board acted on several permits and/or variances and granted the following:

Variances to build closer to property lines	2
Renewal of permit application for use of property	1
Special permits for retail operations including a bakery, a bed & breakfast & a barber shop	3

The following applications were heard and denied:

Variances to build closer to property lines	3
Change of use permit from commercial/retail to auto body & mechanical repair	1

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Salls, Chair
William Forrest
Edward Shearer
John Nelson
Marguerite Lentz
Laura DiBari, Associate Member
Thomas Russell, Associate Member
George Anne Liebl, Associate Member
Robert Barnes, Associate Member

PROPERTY SALES

1999 SALES

(Arms-length sales only)

DATE	GRANTOR/ GRANTEE ADDRESS	SALE PRICE
2/5	Lang Norwood Gulf Rd	21,000
3/12	Boyden Freeman 773 Millers Falls Rd	87,000
4/8	Balk St Thomas 851 Gulf Rd	27,500
4/28	Miller Koch 39 Ferncliff Ave	108,000
6/14	Wolff Perry 22 Holly Ave	222,000
6/18	Craig Meissner 15 Warwick Rd	157,000
7/2	Price Annear 678 Pine Meadow Rd	110,500
7/4	Keating Lavallee 2 Heath Rd	60,000
7/14	Shanafelt Henry 5 Main St	200,000
7/16	Hnath Ladd 719 Mt. Hermon Station Rd	119,750
7/27	Dembek Johnson 63 Cross Rd	99,500
7/29	Metcalf Grubman 211 Birnam Rd	178,000
7/30	Shearer Kopacz 822 Pine Meadow Rd	27,000
7/30	Bobetsky Rocha 740 Gulf Rd	115,500
8/2	Giard Watson Riverview Drive	31,000
8/16	Pyper Reid 23 North Lane	155,000
8/18	Cersosimo Hartwell 667 Mt. Hermon Station Rd	21,000
8/20	Sorci Palmeri 102 Alexander Hill Rd	32,000
9/1	Giles Ackerman 92 Capt. Beers Plain Rd	22,000
10/15	George Charest 32 Aldrich St	117,000
10/22	Balthaser Cowan 528 Old Vernon Rd	123,000
10/25	Wallace Eldaly 218 Birnam Rd	110,000
11/1	Edson Martin 2 Mt. Hermon Station Rd	155,000
11/23	Deyo Larocque 248 Warwick Rd	118,000
11/30	Tynan Dubin 79 Maple St	116,500
12/8	Stonybrook Prop. Steiner West Rd	22,000
12/23	Baker Letourneau 69 Highland Ave	121,500
12/28	Munson Pelletier 122 Warwick Rd	119,000

INTERNET RESOURCES

(Adapted from the Massachusetts Municipal Association)

Local Government

www.mma.org - The MMA Web sites have the latest news affecting local government in Massachusetts. Info includes Cherry Sheet aid proposals, state budget news, results of Proposition 2 ½ override votes and news stories from communities around the state with links to other sites related to local government.

www.mma.net – City.net offers connections to more than 70 Massachusetts cities and towns that have Web sites (with links to items of interest in each community).

www.algov.org – The Access Local government site provides message boards and libraries on a wide range of topics, including legislation, management, technology and leadership.

www.magicnet.net/~metzler – The Utility Connection provides links to electric, gas, water and wastewater utilities along with utility associations, organizations and related state and federal regulatory sites.

State Government

www.magnet.state.ma.us. – The Massachusetts Access to Government Network provides a comprehensive listing of state government online resources.

www.magnet.state.ma.us/dls – The Division of Local Services site provides up-to-date financial, demographic and governmental data on each of the 351 communities in Massachusetts.

Federal Government

www.lcweb.loc.gov – The Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., provides a number of online services, including a Telenet-accessible catalog of its holdings and an extensive site with electronic exhibits.

www.house.gov – The United States House of Representatives Web site offers e-mail addresses for House members, committee profiles and legislative agendas.

www.senate.gov – The United States Senate site provides legislative updates, schedules and addresses.

www.whitehouse.gov – The White House has an extensive site that provides press releases, department contacts, and budget information.

Government Directories

www.fedworld.gov – FedWorld is a gateway to hundreds of federal, state and local links.

www.nttc.edu/gov-res.html – The U.S. Government Information Source provides more than 800 government links, including links to more than 50 independent agencies.

www.thomas.loc.gov – Thomas Legislative Information provides text of federal legislation and congressional records, as well as links to other key government sites.

www.voter.cq.com – Congressional Quarterly's American Voter site offers the latest news from Washington and access to Congressional Quarterly's reference library.